

ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

VOLUME VIII.—NUMBER 30.
WHOLE NUMBER 394.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1871.

SIX DOLLARS PER YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.

Publication Office No. 39 Park Row.
SUBSCRIPTION SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

MILITARY LITERATURE.

WE should think that to a foreign observer one of the most remarkable peculiarities of the American military service would be the absence of literary work. Our officers are well educated, well trained in professional matters, deeply interested in their calling, anxious for its improvement, and, to a fair extent, interested in literary labors. But in spite of all this they do exceedingly little work of a literary kind. It might be supposed that the military service of a republican country would be noted for incessant discussion and criticism of military affairs. But the truth is that if discussion takes place it is almost entirely confined to oral or to epistolary channels. When have we had the measures of the War Department criticised or even commented upon by the officers of the Army or by members of society at large? The General of the Army goes on his way, fixing our policy, giving us our proper rank among military powers or leaving us without it, as he pleases, or as he and his aids have opportunity for action. This has always been our condition, and if our Army and Navy have in the past achieved reputation, it has been because of the patriotism and fidelity to duty of the men to whom we have given the military reputation of the country in trust.

The explanation of this peculiarity is simple and entirely commercial in character. There is no market for military books. We lack the large standing army of some countries; the national organization of others; in short, the purchasers of military books. The publishers cannot afford to publish such works. We also lack the government aid to these valuable but commercially unprofitable literary labors which more centralized governments are willing to give.

When we look at the periodical literature of the country, we find it almost equally bare of military topics. A railway accident, a murder out of the ordinary line, even the explosion of a kerosene lamp, is more stirring to the daily papers than the great question of the nation's perils and preparation to meet them. There is nothing in our journalism which matches even in the least degree the national anxiety with which England discusses the organization of its army; the possibility of a quarrel with Prussia, the great terror of modern times; the needs of infantry, cavalry, artillery, railroad, telegraph, and a dozen other services. There members of Parliament, editors, and private men as well, make these subjects their study, and the journals of England bring weekly and almost daily discussions of them. There the House of Commons, as guardian of the nation's interests, has appointed numerous commissions to inquire into the subject of great guns, small arms, and almost all the military problems. No one can study the records of that body without discovering that it is the greatest fact-collecting organization in the world. It spends money upon investigation as no other institution can afford to spend it. Its fault is a fondness for collecting facts rather than for digesting them. It appoints a commission one year, and a new one for nearly the same object at the next session. We cannot recall how many times the battle of guns against armor has been fought in presence of a committee of that House; but it is certain that if the results obtained in half of them had received the proper amount of thought, a good part of the other half would have been unnecessary. A reputation waits for any man of genius who will take the yearly records of British investigation upon this subject, digest them, and fix their lessons once for all.

How different is our situation! The needed expenditure is not easily teased from Congress, and when allowed in small measure the Army is expected to gain strength by doubly digesting a half ration of experience. We do not complain altogether of this. Digestion will do more for the body than any amount of over-eeding. But there are great questions now mooted—the problem of repeat-

ing or ordinary breech-loading arms, of breech-loading artillery against muzzle-loading; the problem of field artillery; tactics for every branch of the service; in short, a vast deal in Army organization is to be done. These things cannot be settled for us by foreign investigation. They must be determined for our own weapons and our own troops. We are far from ignoring the labors which have been undertaken at headquarters for the improvement of the Army; the value of the academies, of the artillery, the telegraphic, the torpedo schools. Little as we hear the clank of the machinery, we know that a sound and sensible system is working out valuable results with less of the noise but perhaps not less of the effectiveness of foreign services.

In this work the officers of the Army and Navy rarely appear unless in strictly official communications. The amount of active interest expressed by the people must be considered astonishingly small when we reflect upon the intense nationality of our late war, and the extremely short time which has rolled by since that war ended. This is a national peculiarity. We cannot remember the time when military matters, however important, absorbed the nation in a time of peace; except just before the war, when the peace party had, by years of slow increase, grown so large as to give the doctrines of peace at all times and under all circumstances a certain prominence. The fact that the keel of STEVENS'S uncompleted battery was lying on the Hoboken shore was pointed to as a blot upon a Christian nation. The first shot that struck Fort Sumter changed all that, and we have temporarily recovered, at least, our sanity.

As we have said, officers do not write because there is no one to publish. This journal is the only one in the country which makes military and naval affairs its sole theme, and all our readers know that its columns are wide open for their communications. But publication in a periodical is different from publication in a book, and the one can never entirely replace the other. Still—we may frankly say it—we see no other relief for officers studiously inclined than through our own columns. Very rarely a military book has qualities sufficiently popular to make it attractive and a publisher will take it; but the nature of the subject usually forbids that. We doubt very much if the work on cavalry which we are now publishing, valuable as it is, would be received by a publisher who has no interest in a book but a commercial one. Works of this kind containing studies upon the lessons of recent experience are invaluable, and we will do our part in giving them publicity with heartiness and pleasure.

BREECH-LOADING SMALL ARMS.

It is not a little remarkable that this country, which pays the least attention to its own armament, is the one which has produced the greatest number of inventions in firearms; the one which has stamped the true principles of breech-loading arms with its name. From the days when the backwoodsmen of this country rejected the large bore of foreign weapons, and, guided by instinct and experience alone, produced the steady, unerring peacock, to this day, when our attention is given with equal absorption to breech-loaders and metal-cased cartridges, our inventors have given more attention to sound principles of construction than to excellence of workmanship, which will sometimes give success to a weapon otherwise of only second rank. That steady adherence to the discovery of correct principles, rather than to the improvement of particular arms, has been of great service, not merely in perfecting firearms as a class, but also in giving to American invention the character and definiteness of aim which are such valuable drill-masters to the inventor. But a monopoly of this kind can be carried too far. A point is after a time reached where workmanship assisting invention can produce better results than even progress of discovery.

This point seems to have been reached by the students of military weapons. The rifle, the loading at the breech, the use of the metallic cartridge as a breech-closer, form a combination of principles which seems to be pretty near the boundary line of progress so far as principles are concerned; at least our inventions of this kind are about equal to our present capacity to appreciate

improvement. Now attention is almost entirely given to the method in which these principles are applied in particular guns, and the rivalry of inventors takes a shape in which their special ingenuity and the simplicity born of ability and study combined are trusted to win the day. It is no longer a battle of systems, but a battle of devices; no longer a war of savants and mathematicians against prejudice, but a struggle of ingenious inventors and skilled mechanics to make the best working arm. The officers who compose Army boards have their opinions upon the question of paper versus metallic cartridges; of needle versus bolt guns; but they have neither opinion nor prejudice against a new construction of the breech, but coldly and unsympathizingly put it through the sand test, the salt water, the damaged cartridge, the rough handling, and all the other tests. It is at this stage of improvement that men who, like Messrs. Burton and Ward, have hit upon a mechanism that is simple, strong, and effective, find themselves and their inventions in demand. A year ago (April 2, 1870), the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL gave a description of the weapon, with cuts illustrating the principal working parts. We see in "Spon's Dictionary of Engineering," published in London, a very careful description and strong commendation of the arm. The article gives the report of the St. Louis Army Board, and then proceeds to discuss the rifle in question; first laying down the following schedule of qualities indispensable to a good breech-loader:

To obtain the full advantages from a breech-loading firearm, the following qualifications, marked A, B, C, etc., are indispensable:

(A) The arm should be light, strong, serviceable, cheap, and readily made.

(B) The breech action simple and easily understood; the combined pieces easily taken apart, to effect cleaning or repairs, and afterward easily united without the use of tools.

(C) The parts of the breech subject to motion should be well protected from sand, dirt, or wet; capable of long-continued and rapid firing without having but seldom to be cleaned.

(D) The gun should give a low trajectory with light recoil.

(E) The breech should resist squarely and effectively the force of the explosion; it should have its resisting power equally distributed all round the axis of the bore of the barrel.

(F) The breech should be so constructed that, in the event of a damaged cartridge being used, or in the case of a cartridge bursting, as is often the case, particularly with the Boxer, the escaping gas should be directed off so that it could in no way injure the face or eyes of the soldier.

(G) The breech mechanism should be composed of but few parts, and be of a nature not easily damaged or broken when in use; there should be few, if any, screws to be removed, so that in the event of a casualty the soldier can repair damages upon the field of action without the aid of an armorer.

(H) A breech-loading gun is not perfect that is confined to the exclusive use of a special cartridge; and that cartridge should be fire and water proof—not to be ignited by exploding of shells, or damaged by damp, rain, or frost being transported.

(I) And, lastly, a firearm should have the stock in one piece, and not made up of different pieces.

The gun invented by Bethel Burton, with its details, satisfies all the requirements which we have marked (A), (B), (C), etc. Besides, it is impossible, even when firing loose powder, to blow out the movable breech, which is suited to any calibre. The piece weighs but eight pounds, and its penetration is great.

The writer also speaks of the gun as "the most perfect and complete breech-loading firearm that has fallen under our notice."

Although the report of the St. Louis board placed the Ward-Burton sixth on the list of best guns, the authorities at headquarters do not seem entirely satisfied with this verdict, and have ordered a thousand rifles and three hundred carbines to be made at Springfield on the Ward-Burton model. Thus it will be seen that though we are not urged by national alarms, nor by fear of powerful neighbors, to undertake those great radical changes of armament which mark the history of some other countries, we are not altogether destitute of preparation for possible emergencies. With the very great facilities for the manufacture of arms which we possess, we could in a month's time supply fifty regiments with any rifle selected, and after the first month fifteen or twenty regiments could be armed each week. This would be far from an assuring outlook if we had an ever alert Prussia on our border, ready to end a war in six weeks or six months; but under the circumstances which actually exist, we can perhaps better afford to wait until service experiments have decided which is the most available gun, than hastily take up with one which we may afterwards have to throw away. Three guns are now, or soon will be, in the hands of the troops for experiment, the Allen, Remington, and the Ward-Burton, and we would gladly see others subjected to the same test. The Government would probably need little persuasion, troublesome as the introduction of arms on trial might be for a time. Trouble, however, is of little account in view of the great importance of the question of a new arm; but we fear there are few inventors or manufacturers who are in a position or willing to take the risk of giving the necessary guarantee.

Twenty years ago "peace principles" had made such progress among public men that it is to a "peace ministry" of England that the Crimean war is charged. Five great wars, in the Crimea, in Italy, in America, in Aus-

tria, and in France, have given those principles a shock from which they will not lightly recover. So far from trusting to diplomacy for the settlement of international quarrels, we find the appeal to arms in favor; and so far from beating spears into pruning-hooks, the thought of statesmen now is how to "convert" ploughshares into swords at the lowest cost. Probably the most general feeling in England to-day is that the country has been too neglectful of its military power, and the questions of armament and of army organization are the foremost ones in British politics. After seven months of tremendous fighting France and Germany find themselves equal in one respect: the Chassepot and the needle-gun must both be discarded. With lessons like these before us, our Government would be exceedingly remiss if it passed the same question of armament by without giving it the most careful attention. The introduction of two arms for a thorough service test is the best step yet made and in exactly the right direction. Our military authorities have already shown their appreciation of the subject, and the necessity of providing breech-loaders in quantity and as speedily as possible was urged in the last annual reports of the officers at the head of the Army in the most specific terms.

BREVET Major-General George L. Hartsuff, lieutenant-colonel and assistant adjutant-general U. S. Army, has published an outline description of the posts and stations of troops in the Military Division of the Missouri, commanded by Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan. The information is obtained principally from the post commanders, and includes the date of the establishment of each post, a description of the quarters, storehouses, and other buildings, the location of supply depots, the amount of quartermaster's and subsistence stores kept on hand, the sources of supply for wood and water, the location of the nearest Indians, the miners, the reservations, and a description of the country, the climate, and the products indigenous to the soil, and the means of communication. Bound up with this are the roster and stations of troops and a pile of the general orders for the year 1870. The description of the posts was first published in 1869. It has been now reprinted in a more portable and convenient form, and additional information given down to the close of last year. The volume is not only valuable to the officers of the Army, but forms a convenient hand-book for civilians travelling in the section of country covered by the Department.

THE ARMY.

GENERAL ORDERS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, {
WASHINGTON, January 23, 1871. }

General Orders No. 5.

By direction of the President, the headquarters Department of the South is transferred from Atlanta, Georgia, to Louisville, Kentucky.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, {
WASHINGTON, March 4, 1871. }

General Orders No. 17.

I. THE following transfers of troops are made, and the movements will take place under the direction of the department commanders where the troops are now serving:

1st. A regiment of infantry (the one that can be best spared and which has served longest on the frontier) is transferred from the Department of the Platte to the Department of the South, to proceed by rail to Louisville, Ky., to report for assignment to the department commander.

2d. The Seventh Cavalry from the Department of the Missouri to the Department of the South; eight companies to proceed by boat from Fort Leavenworth to Louisville, Ky., and the other four companies to follow by the same route as soon as they can be spared.

3d. The Sixth Cavalry from the Department of Texas to the Department of the Missouri: six companies to march as early as possible, and the other six companies to follow as soon as they can be relieved by other cavalry now serving in the same department; this regiment to march to Fort Sill in the Indian country and thence to such points and by such routes as the commanding general of the Department of the Missouri may order.

4th. The school of instruction for light artillery at Fort Riley, Kansas, will be discontinued and the batteries distributed to the headquarters of their respective regiments, where the instruction and practice will be continued under the immediate supervision of the respective colonels.

Battery K, First Artillery, with guns, horses, and equipments complete, will be shipped from Fort Leavenworth by boat to Pittsburgh, thence by rail to Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, or such fort as may be appointed as headquarters of the First Artillery.

Battery A, Second Artillery, will turn in their battery and equipment at the arsenal at Fort Leavenworth, and their horses to the Quartermaster's Department for issue to the Seventh Cavalry, and will proceed by rail to the Presidio, San Francisco, where the department command-

der will cause the battery to be re-equipped and mounted as a four-gun battery.

Battery C, Third Artillery, will be sent by boat to Louisville, Ky., and thence by rail to Charleston, S. C., which will be made the headquarters of the Third Artillery, to which point Colonel George W. Getty will proceed and take post, subject to the orders of the commanding general of the Department of the South.

Battery B, Fourth Artillery, will proceed from Fort Leavenworth, by boat, to Parkersburg, West Va., or Belair, Ohio, and thence by rail to Fort McHenry, Md., the headquarters of that regiment.

II. The officers in command of these several detachments will report from time to time, by letter or telegraph, to the commanding generals of the departments to which they are hereby assigned their routes and movements that suitable arrangements may be made for their supplies.

By command of General Sherman.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, {
WASHINGTON, March 6, 1871. }

General Orders No. 18.

The following joint resolution of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

[PRIVATE RESOLUTION—No. 7.]

JOINT RESOLUTION authorizing the Secretary of War to audit and pay the claim of Robert T. Kirkpatrick, a loyal citizen of Tennessee.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to examine and pay the claim of Robert T. Kirkpatrick, of Nashville, Tennessee, for materials taken and used, by military orders, in building a fort for the defence of said city; Provided, That said amount so allowed shall not exceed the sum of twenty thousand five hundred and twenty-three dollars; And provided further, That this shall be final.

Approved February 15, 1871.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, {
WASHINGTON, March 6, 1871. }

General Orders No. 19.

The following act of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 30.]

AN ACT to provide for the disposition of useless military reservations.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to transfer to the custody and control of the Secretary of the Interior, for disposition for cash, according to the existing laws of the United States relating to the public lands, after appraisement, to the highest bidder, and at not less than the appraised value, nor at less than one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, the United States military reservations at Forts Lane and Walla-Walla, in the State of Oregon; Fort Zarah, in the State of Kansas; Camp McGarry, in the State of Nevada; Fort Sumner, in the Territory of New Mexico; Fort Jessup and Sabine, in the State of Louisiana; Fort Wayne and Fort Smith, in the State of Arkansas; such portions of the Fort Abercrombie[ie] reservation as lies east of the Red River of the North; and such portions of the reservation at Fort Bridger, in the Territory of Wyoming, as may no longer be required for military purposes; Provided, That the Secretary of the Interior shall, whenever in his opinion the public interests may require it, cause any of the foregoing reservations, or part thereof, to be subdivided into tracts less than forty acres each, or into town lots; And provided also, That each subdivision shall be appraised and offered separately at public outcry, to the highest bidder, as hereinbefore provided, after which any unsold land or lot shall be subject to sale at private entry for the appraised value, at the proper land office; And provided further, That should there be improvements of buildings, or of building materials, or other valuable property, the Secretary of the Interior shall have them appraised; and no patent shall issue for the real estate until the improvements are paid for, at the appraised value thereof, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the said Secretary.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the right is hereby granted to Dalles City to have and use the waters of Mill creek flowing through the military reservation of Fort Dalles, Oregon, and the right of way to convey the same through said reservation for the purposes of supplying Dalles City with water, and for manufacturing purposes.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That permission is granted to the incorporated authorities of Dalles City to extend Liberty street southerly, on the line of the same, through said reservation, and the land lying east thereof be, and the same is, granted to said Dalles City, in fee, upon the payment to the United States therefor of the sum of five dollars per acre.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the land hereby granted to said city shall be surveyed under the direction of the Surveyor-General for the State of Oregon upon application to him made by the mayor of said city; and the expenses of such survey shall be paid by said Dalles City.

Approved February 24, 1871.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, {
WASHINGTON, March 6, 1871. }

General Orders No. 20.

The following resolution of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

[RESOLUTION—No. 13.]

A RESOLUTION authorizing the sale of the Chattanooga rolling-mill property at Chattanooga, Tennessee, to the Southwestern Iron Company.

WHEREAS, The United States, on the fifth day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, did, in consideration of the sum of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, lease to John A. Spooner, of Plymouth, Massachusetts, his legal representatives and assigns, all the property known as the United States military rolling-mill, in Chattanooga, State of Tennessee, and all the buildings, tools, machinery, fixtures, furniture, equipments, and appurtenances connected therewith, together with railroad track connecting said mill with the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, for two years from the date of said lease, with the further agreement contained in said lease, that the United States would, upon the request of said John A. Spooner, his legal representatives or assigns, sell, transfer, and convey said mill, buildings, machinery, and other property thereby leased, by good and sufficient deed and absolute title, to the said John A. Spooner, his legal representatives and assigns, to his or their own use; and whereas, the said John A. Spooner [has] assigned his interest in said lease to the Southwestern Iron Company, and the said Southwestern Iron Company have requested the United States to convey the said mill, buildings, machinery, and so forth, to the said Southwestern Iron Company: therefore,

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized, in consideration of the amount already paid, to make, execute, and deliver all needful instruments, conveying and transferring all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Chattanooga rolling-mill, the

buildings, tools, machinery, fixtures, furniture, equipments, and appurtenances connected therewith, together with the railroad track connecting said mill with the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, to the Southwestern Iron Company.

Approved February 14, 1871.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending March 7, 1871.

Tuesday, February 28.

COLONEL James A. Hardie, inspector-general U. S. Army, Major Judson D. Bingham, quartermaster U. S. Army, and Major T. H. Stanton, paymaster U. S. Army, are hereby detailed as commissioners, under the act approved February 2, 1871, "to reimburse the State of Kansas for moneys expended for the United States in enrolling, equipping, and provisioning militia forces to aid in suppressing the rebellion." They will assemble at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on the 15th day of March, 1871, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the purpose of taking the necessary oaths and entering upon the performance of their duties. Second Lieutenant Charles B. Hinton, Eighteenth Infantry, is detailed as recorder of the commission, and will report by letter to the president of the commission for instructions. The depot quartermaster at Fort Leavenworth is authorized and directed to provide a suitable apartment for the sessions of the commission, and also to furnish, on the requisition of the commission, the stationery required for their duties.

Wednesday, March 1.

First Lieutenant James Humbert, Seventeenth Infantry, having been relieved from duty on recruiting service, will proceed without delay to join his regiment in the Department of Dakota.

Leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted to Captain James Gillis, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army.

Thursday, March 2.

First Lieutenant R. M. Hall, First Artillery, is hereby authorized to draw mileage from Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, to Washington, D. C., and return, under the letter of Feb. 10, 1871, from this office, authorizing him to come to this city for conference with the agent of the United States before the Mexican Claims Commission.

The commission instituted in Special Orders No. 81, current series, consisting of Colonel James A. Hardie, inspector-general; Major Judson D. Bingham, quartermaster; Major Thaddeus H. Stanton, paymaster, will also act as commissioners, under the joint resolution approved February 9, 1871, "authorizing the sale of a portion of the Fort Leavenworth military reservation to the Kansas Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Leavenworth county, in the State of Kansas, for fair grounds." The commission will meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on the 15th day of March, 1871, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to examine and report, without unnecessary delay, the true value of the land [described in the joint resolution] to the Secretary of War.

Friday, March 3.

A board of officers, to consist of Captain James McMillan, Third Artillery; Assistant Surgeon John S. Billings; First Lieutenant Thomas H. Bradley, Twenty-first Infantry, will assemble in this city on the 6th instant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to examine into and report upon the qualifications of William Tyler, late sergeant Company B, First Infantry, for appointment as superintendent of national cemetery. The applicant must fulfil the conditions prescribed in General Orders No. 64, of 1867, from this office. The junior member of the board will act as recorder.

The telegraphic instructions of March 1, 1871, from this office, directing the commanding general Military Division of the Pacific to send First Lieutenant James E. Batchelder, Second Cavalry, under guard to headquarters Department of Dakota for trial, are hereby confirmed.

Leave of absence for fifteen days is hereby granted Colonel Edward Hatch, Ninth Cavalry, superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service.

Saturday, March 4.

As soon as existing orders for forwarding recruits to organizations have been complied with, the superintendent General Recruiting Service, Western Division, will forward, under proper charge, one hundred recruits from those which are or may from time to time become disposable at the depot to Omaha, Nebraska, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Fourteenth Infantry.

As soon as existing orders for forwarding recruits to organizations have been complied with, the superintendent General Recruiting Service, Eastern Division, will forward, under proper charge, one hundred recruits from those which are or may from time to time become disposable at the depot to Galveston, Texas, where they will be reported by telegraph, upon arrival, to the commanding officer Department of Texas for assignment to the Tenth Infantry.

Monday, March 6.

Captain George D. Hill, U. S. Army, (retired), is hereby relieved from duty as Indian agent at the Tulalip Indian Reservation, Washington Territory, and will upon the receipt of this order proceed to his home.

The following named officers are hereby relieved from duty as Indian agents, and will upon the receipt of this order proceed without delay to join their respective regiments: First Lieutenant John B. Hanson, Tenth Infantry; First Lieutenant John A. Manley, Twentieth Infantry.

Hospital Steward Joseph Y. Potts, now on duty in the office of the Surgeon-General, will, at his own request, be discharged the service of the United States, to date March 5, 1871.

So much of Special Orders No. 6, paragraph 1, January 7, 1871, from this office, as accepts the resignation of Second Lieutenant Samuel H. Bodfish, Sixth Cavalry,

take effect January 4, 1871, is hereby amended to read; Second Lieutenant Sumner H. Bodfish, Sixth Cavalry.

Colonel J. J. Reynolds, Third Cavalry, commanding the Department of Texas, having completed the business for which he was ordered to this city, will return without delay to the headquarters of his department.

Leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Daniel F. Stiles, Tenth Infantry.

Leave of absence for four months is hereby granted Captain John M. Hamilton, Fifth Cavalry, at the expiration of which he will report to the commanding general Department of the Platte, for assignment to duty with his regiment.

The leave of absence granted Major Henry R. Mizner, Twelfth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 5, January 9, 1871, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended four months.

ARMY PERSONAL.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted Second Lieutenant G. N. Whistler, Fifth Artillery, March 3.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted First Lieutenant M. C. Grier, Fourth Artillery, March 1.

PAYMASTER V. C. Hanna, U. S. Army, was ordered March 8 to proceed to Fort Gratiot, Michigan, and pay the troops at that post.

THE leave of absence granted Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. Hunt, Twentieth Infantry, in Post Orders, Fort Abercrombie, D. T., was extended twenty days February 25.

THE extension of leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Frank Thorp, Fifth Artillery, from headquarters Department of the East, has been further extended ten days.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted Captain H. G. Thomas, Twentieth Infantry, February 23, with permission to apply through the proper channels for an extension of thirty days.

THE seven days' leave of absence granted Captain R. E. Johnson, First Infantry, in Special Orders No. 10, current series, headquarters Fort Porter, New York, was extended three days February 23.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending March 7, 1871: Major W. S. King, surgeon U. S. Army; Captain C. W. Howell, Corps of Engineers; Assistant Surgeon H. R. Tilton, U. S. Army.

HOSPITAL Steward Isaac H. Wilson, U. S. Army, was relieved from duty at Fort Smith, Arkansas, February 27, and ordered to proceed without delay to Fort Sill, I. T., where he will report in person to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to duty.

SPECIAL Orders No. 5, of February 16, 1871, from headquarters First Infantry, ordering First Lieutenant F. M. Lynde, First Infantry, to join his company (C) at Fort Porter, New York, were approved by orders from headquarters Department of the Lakes.

PAYMASTER Simeon Smith, U. S. Army, was ordered March 1 to proceed to and pay the troops at the following named posts, on completion of which duty he will return to his station: Fort Porter, N. Y.; Fort Niagara, N. Y.; Fort Ontario, N. Y.; Madison Barracks, N. Y.

SECOND Lieutenant Wm. F. Gardner, Twenty-fourth Infantry, was ordered February 9 to proceed to San Elizario, Texas, and determine the number, locality, and condition of graves of deceased officers and soldiers of the U. S. Army in that vicinity. Upon the completion of that duty he will rejoin his station and make full report to the headquarters of his regiment, Fort Bliss, Texas.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Independence, Mass., March 1. Detail for the court: Major W. Hays, Fifth Artillery; Assistant Surgeon W. H. Gardner, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant John McClellan, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. N. Whistler, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant A. L. Morton, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. B. Weir, Fifth Artillery. First Lieutenant Frederick Robinson, Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Laramie, W. T., February 2. Detail for the court: Captain John Rzina, Fourth Infantry; Captain Avery B. Cain, Fourth Infantry; Captain William S. Collier, Fourth Infantry; Captain Robert P. Wilson, Fifth Cavalry; First Lieutenant Thomas F. Quinn, Fourth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Butler D. Price, Fourth Infantry. First Lieutenant David I. Ezekiel, Fourth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Garland, C. T., March 9. Detail for the court: Major A. J. Alexander, Eighth Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon Ely McClellan, U. S. Army; Captain Samuel B. M. Young, Eighth Cavalry; Captain Charles Hobart, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant John W. Bean, Fifteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Cyrus M. De Lany, Fifteenth Infantry. First Lieutenant James M. Ropes, Eighth Cavalry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Wayne, Mich., March 6. Detail for the court: Captain L. D. DeRussy, First Infantry; Captain Kinzie Bates, First Infantry; Captain Fergus Walker, First Infantry; First Lieutenant R. G. Heiner, First Infantry; First Lieutenant Thomas Sharp, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant Charles A. Booth, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. Sumner Rogers, First Infantry. First Lieutenant Allen Smith, adjutant First Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Wadsworth, W. T., March 10. Detail for the court: Captain J. C. Bates, Twentieth Infantry; Captain William Stanley, Twentieth Infantry; Captain J. S. McNaught, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant William Hawley, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Alexander Wiahart, Twentieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. A. Yeckley, Twentieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant

E. Turnock, Twentieth Infantry. Assistant Surgeon C. E. Munn, U. S. Army, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Camp Supply, I. T., March 15. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel John W. Davidson, Tenth Cavalry; Captain John H. Page, Third Infantry; Captain Joseph B. Rife, Sixth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon J. A. Fitzgerald, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant William S. Mackay, Third Infantry; Second Lieutenant Alex. M. Wetherill, Sixth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Silas Pepoon, Tenth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant R. T. Jacob, Jr., Sixth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Levi P. Hunt, Tenth Cavalry. Captain Robert P. Hughes, Third Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, New York harbor, March 8. Detail for the court: Captain H. W. Closson, First Artillery; Captain L. L. Langdon, First Artillery; First Lieutenant E. D. Wheeler, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenbeck, First Artillery; First Lieutenant T. H. B. Counselman, First Artillery; First Lieutenant D. D. Wheeler, First Artillery; First Lieutenant F. C. Nichols, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant D. M. Taylor, First Artillery. First Lieutenant J. P. Sanger, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Trumbull, Conn., March 8. Detail for the court: Captain G. A. Kelsen, Fifth Artillery; Captain F. L. Guenther, Fifth Artillery; Assistant Surgeon D. L. Huntington, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant C. C. McConnell, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant S. M. Mills, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant T. R. Adams, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant O. H. Howard, Fifth Artillery. Second Lieutenant Eric Bergland, Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Shaw, M. T., March 10. Detail for the court: Colonel John Gibbon, Seventh Infantry; Surgeon F. L. Town, U. S. Army; Captain H. B. Freeman, Seventh Infantry; Captain T. S. Kirtland, Seventh Infantry; First Lieutenant G. N. Bomford, Seventh Infantry; First Lieutenant William Quinton, Seventh Infantry; Second Lieutenant M. C. Sanbourne, Seventh Infantry; Second Lieutenant Daniel Robinson, Seventh Infantry; Second Lieutenant F. M. H. Kendricks, Seventh Infantry. Second Lieutenant A. H. Jackson, Seventh Infantry, judge-advocate.

BEFORE a General Court-martial, which convened at Fort Sully, D. T., and of which Colonel D. S. Stanley, Twenty-second Infantry, is president, Captain S. A. Wainwright, Twenty-second Infantry, was arraigned and tried on the charges, first, "Absence without leave," second, "Neglect of duty." He was found not guilty of the first charge, but guilty of the second charge, and was sentenced "To be confined to the limits of the military reservation of the post or station where he may be serving for two months, and to forfeit to the United States \$100 per month of his monthly pay for the same period." The proceedings, findings, and sentence of the court are approved by Major-General Hancock.

CAPTAIN Charles J. Dickey, Twenty-second Infantry, was arraigned and tried before a General Court-martial which convened at Fort Sully, D. T., of which Colonel D. S. Stanley, Twenty-second Infantry, is president, on the charges, first, "Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," second, "Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." He was found guilty of the first charge and not guilty of the second, and was sentenced to be confined to the limits of the reserve of the military post at which he may be serving for three calendar months, and to forfeit one half of his monthly salary for the same period. The proceedings, findings, and sentence of the court are approved by Major-General Hancock.

THE staff of the commander Military Division of the Missouri, as at present constituted, conforming to General Orders No. 7, Adjutant-General's Office, current series, is as follows, viz.: Personal—Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Forsyth, military secretary; Lieutenant-Colonel James W. Forsyth, aide-de-camp; Lieutenant-Colonel M. V. Sheridan, aide-de-camp. Division—Lieutenant-Colonel George L. Hartsuff, assistant adjutant-general; Colonel James A. Hardie, inspector-general; Colonel D. H. Rucker, depot and chief quartermaster; Lieutenant-Colonel H. F. Clarke, depot and chief commissary; Captain Morris J. Asch, attending surgeon; Lieutenant-Colonel Cary H. Fry, chief paymaster; Captain John W. Barlow, chief engineer.

AT a meeting of a majority of the officers of the post of Fort Richardson, Texas, held on the 30th day of January, 1871, and of which Captain J. A. Irwin, Sixth Cavalry, was chairman, and Lieutenant Gilbert E. Overton, Sixth Cavalry, was secretary, it was unanimously "Resolved, that as the operation of the late 'Army bill' will remove from our midst our comrade Captain Edwin Mauck, Sixth Cavalry, we assemble to-night for the purpose of expressing our sincere sorrow at thus being compelled to lose the society of a pleasant gentleman and personal friend, and to assure him that although his connection with the Army is thus suddenly severed, and our paths in life may henceforward widely diverge, he leaves us carrying with him our best wishes for his future happiness and success and with the full assurance of our warmest regard and esteem. Resolved, that one copy of these resolutions be furnished Captain Mauck, one copy sent to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and one copy to the Philadelphia Press, for publication."

WILLIAM MCELROY, late first lieutenant Twenty-fifth Infantry, having returned to civil life, and being about to leave the post of Fort Stockton, Texas, where he has been stationed, in consequence of his honorable muster out of the Army, some of his former fellow-officers addressed a letter to him on the 31st of January, expressing their regret at losing "a

much esteemed companion and an honorable man," and also their regret that the service has lost in him a good and worthy officer. They also tender to Mr. McElroy their best wishes for the future, hoping that it may be "bright and prosperous," and that he may ever meet with the appreciation his "patriotic conduct during the war and his many merits so well deserved." This letter is signed by Major J. F. Wade, Ninth Cavalry, commanding post; Captains F. S. Dodge and Michael Cooney, Ninth Cavalry; Captain Louis Johnson, Twenty-fourth Infantry; First Lieutenant James N. Morgan, Twenty-fourth Infantry; First Lieutenants Francis Moore, I. M. Starr, Patrick Cusack, and W. B. Brunton, Ninth Cavalry; Captain P. J. A. Cleary, assistant surgeon U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant Edward Allsworth, Twenty-fifth Infantry; Second Lieutenants M. B. Hughes and John Conline, Ninth Cavalry.

THE following is the present staff of the commander of the Department of the Platte, modified conformably to General Orders No. 7, current series, from the War Department: Personal staff—Captain George B. Russell, Ninth Infantry, aide-de-camp; Captain Henry G. Lithfield, Second Artillery, aide-de-camp. Department staff—Major George D. Ruggles, Adjutant-General's Department, adjutant-general; Major Herbert P. Curtis, Judge-Advocate's Department, judge-advocate; Major Alex. J. Perry, Quartermaster's Department, chief quartermaster, purchasing and depot quartermaster; Captain John W. Barriger, Subsistence Department, chief commissary, purchasing and depot commissary of subsistence; Surgeon Joseph B. Brown, Medical Department, medical director and attending surgeon; Major Benjamin Alvord, Pay Department, chief paymaster; Captain William A. Jones, Corps of Engineers, engineer officer; Captain John R. McGinness, Ordnance Department, chief ordnance officer. The following are relieved: Major Nelson B. Switzer, Second Cavalry, late acting assistant inspector-general; he will report to headquarters of his regiment for duty at Omaha Barracks, Neb.; Second Lieutenant Adolphus W. Greely, Fifth Cavalry late acting chief signal officer; he will report to the commanding officer of Fort Laramie for duty with his company at that post; Captain J. H. Belcher, assistant quartermaster U. S. A., depot quartermaster at Omaha; he will report for instructions, by letter, to the Adjutant-General of the Army. The acting assistant surgeon on duty as attending surgeon in this city is relieved from further duty, and will report to the medical director for annulment of contract.

BEFORE a General Court-martial which convened at Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., and of which Colonel John H. Hing, Ninth Infantry, is president, and Captain George B. Russell, Ninth Infantry, judge-advocate, Second Lieutenant Robert H. Young, Fourth Infantry, was arraigned and tried on the charges, first, "Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" second, "Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." The specifications cover the allegation that the accused returned a communication from the headquarters of the Thirteenth Infantry with an improper and disrespectful endorsement. The court acquitted him of the first charge, but found him guilty of the second charge, and sentenced him to be reprimanded in General Orders by the commanding general Department of the Platte. General Augur in reviewing the proceedings of the court says: "The finding of acquittal under the second specification to the first charge is disapproved, as it appears to the reviewing authority to be in conflict, not only with the evidence in the case, but with Lieutenant Young's written admissions; every allegation in it being manifestly founded in fact and sustained by proof, except one, viz., that which declares the offensive statement forming the base of the specification to have been 'wilfully false and intended to deceive.' With this exception the proceedings, findings, and sentence are approved. The reply made by Lieutenant Young to an official communication from his superior and commanding officer was indisputably improper and discourteous in tone, and a serious breach of official and military good manners. Lieutenant Young calls attention in his defence to the fact that he has been honorably mentioned in orders for services in this department against hostile Indians. He can scarcely need to be reminded that no gallantry in the field, however conspicuous, can justify insubordination and want of official decorum in the ordinary duties of military life, and the reviewing authority is compelled to say that he finds these offences gravely prominent in the act for which Lieutenant Young has been recently brought to trial before a military court. Lieutenant Young will be released from arrest and restored to duty."

ASSISTANT Supervisor R. T. Gaines, of the Internal Revenue Department, accompanied by Deputy United States Marshal A. H. Otterson and a squad of Federal soldiers, left Nashville February 27 for a raid on illicit distilleries. They succeeded in breaking up twelve distilleries. About 36,000 gallons of beer were destroyed at Shellmount. In Smith county the party was fired on by bushwhackers, but no one was injured.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Headquarters Third Cavalry, from Camp Halleck, Nev., to Drum Barracks, Cal., February 18. Ordered.

Company D, Third Cavalry, from Camp Halleck, Nev., to Fort Yuma, Cal., February 18. Ordered.

Entire regiment, Sixth Cavalry, from Department of Texas to Department of the Missouri, March 4. Ordered.

Entire regiment, Seventh Cavalry, from Department of the Missouri to the Department of the Suoth, March 4. Ordered.

Company K, First Artillery, from Fort Riley, Ks., to Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, March 4. Ordered.

Company B, Fourth Artillery, from Fort Riley, Ks., to Fort McHenry, Md., March 4. Ordered.

Company A, Second Artillery, from Fort Riley, Ks., to Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., March 4. Ordered.

Headquarters Third Artillery, from Key West, Fla., to Charleston, S. C., March 4. Ordered.

Company C, Third Artillery, from Fort Riley, Ks., to Charleston, S. C., March 4. Ordered.

No change in station of headquarters or companies of infantry reported since February 28.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

ARMY.

MARCH 3.

Davis, Ira B., Captain.	Beneear, B., Captain.
Frost, G., Captain.	Robinson, A. P., Colonel.
Flynn, Captain.	Robinson, Geo., Captain.
Heath, D. P., Captain.	Watkins, H., Colonel.
White, John, Captain.	

MARCH 6.

Bassett, Z. D., Captain.	Gowen, J. E., Colonel.
Danforth, John, Colonel.	Jennings, J. B., Major.
Davis, J. M., Captain.	Marsch, J. F., Colonel—2.
Gardner, A. L., Captain.	Partridge, L. H., Captain.

Letters have been received at this office for the following persons: Captain Edward Byrne (5); Surgeon F. W. Wunderlich, U. S. Navy; Surgeon S. A. Storrow, U. S. Army; Lieutenant E. T. Bradford, U. S. M. C.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE United States frigate *Worcester*, with a cargo of provisions for the French, went to sea from Boston at two o'clock P. M. on the 5th instant.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from the Washington Navy-yard February 28, says: "Work is exceedingly brisk. The U. S. steamer *Frolic*, which has been repairing here for the last four months, has been hauled out of the dry dock. She has been thoroughly overhauled and caulked. She is to have a new main deck and new boilers. The *Periwinkle* has been stripped and rebuilt. Every timber is new, with the exception of a few ribs. She is expected to be ready for sea early in May. Captain Hall will have command of the *Periwinkle* on the Arctic expedition. He is anxious to have some Navy officers volunteer to accompany him. The *Tallapoosa* arrived here last week from New York. She leaves on the 2d of next month for Norfolk, to go into the dry dock for repairs."

The *California*, twenty-three guns, Captain M. J. B. Clitz, has again received her sailing orders from the Department. They are similar to those recently countermanded by telegraph, which instructed Captain Clitz to proceed to San Francisco under sail, without touching at any port on the passage. It is not probable that the *California* will be able to sail under ten days, as there are some changes yet to be made which will require that time to complete. Captain Clitz has been complimented in high terms in a letter written to him by the Secretary of the Navy, on the result of the inspection of his ship by the board presided over by Commodore Le Roy. The Secretary observes that it is very rarely that so favorable a report of the condition of any ship is received at the Department, and he is confident that great zeal and fidelity have been displayed by the officers and men while they have been aboard the *California*. The board of inspectors complimented Lieutenant Bishop, commanding the marine guard, on the soldierly bearing and excellent appearance of his men. The New York *Times* in referring to these facts, says "the complimentary approval of the Secretary of the Navy has very naturally given great satisfaction to all on board the *California*, from the captain down to the messenger boy. And it would seem unfortunate that the splendid frigate cannot display our flag in two or three of the principal South American ports, to show our foreign friends that the United States Navy has not lost any of its former prestige, and that it still numbers crack frigates, surpassed by none afloat. Wherever she may go, the *California* will reflect credit on our service."

THE following interesting letter from Commander Selfridge, of the United States steamer *Nipic*, has been received by Mr. Cyrus Butler, of New York:

ASPINWALL, February 9, 1871.

SIR: I am not very well; just recovering from an attack of fever, brought on by exposure and fatigue in my recent explorations. I am quite sanguine that I have found a practicable and profitable route for a canal. The Atrato is navigable for the largest ships. So is the Cacarica for twelve miles, which reduces the length of the line to less than fifty miles. I crossed the watershed at a height, I am confident, of not more than 300 feet. It was correctly measured by my pocket-bar; at 170 feet was not more than ten feet wide at the crest, and the base not over a mile and a half. The height of the base above the level of the sea I have only estimated, and I may be in error. There is plenty of water for a lock canal, though my preference is for a thorough cut, of course, unless our estimates reach too high a figure. The foundation of the hills is a soft trap, very easily worked; indeed, nothing better could be asked. I have completed all my arrangements for the Atlantic slope, and am now on my way for the Gulf of San Miguel, to start the work from the Pacific side. I hope and pray I may be successful. The harbor off the mouth of the Atrato is perfect, and, after examination, I consider the work of deepening one of the mouths of the Atrato but a small affair. Tell Mr. Kelley I intend to examine another route from Simon Bay, which is a short distance below Cupica Bay, across the dividing ridge, following the Napipi River to the Atrato. Natives assure me they go in two and a half days from the Atrato to the Pacific. They take but five hours in the transit from the head of canoe navigation to the Pacific, and the hills are not higher than our topsail yard. Trautwine's line crosses below this river, the one he estimates to cost \$350,000,000. Can Mr. Kelley tell me whether Trautwine speaks of the valley of the Napipi? Yours truly,

THOMAS O. SELFRIDGE, Commander U. S. Navy.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

MARCH 2.—Carpenter Joseph E. Cox, to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on the 18th inst.

MARCH 3.—Captain George M. Ransom, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

Lieutenant Wm. W. Rhoades, to the Navy-yard, Boston.

Lieutenant A. B. H. Lillie, to the *Shawmut*, on the 15th inst.

Passed Assistant Paymaster John R. Carmody, to the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Joseph Foster, to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

First Assistant Engineer Thomas M. Dukehart, to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Assistant Surgeon W. S. Dixon, to the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

MARCH 4.—Commander Wm. T. Truxton, as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, Boston, Mass.

MARCH 7.—Boatswain Robert Dixon, to duty in the Department of Yards and Docks at the Navy-yard, New York.

DETACHED.

MARCH 2.—Carpenter Wm. M. Laighton, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on the 18th inst., and placed on waiting orders.

MARCH 3.—Commander G. H. Perkins, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to command the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Lieutenant-Commander G. K. Haswell, from the receiving ship *Vandalia*, and ordered to the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Lieutenants Charles T. Hutchins and Wm. H. Emory, from the Naval Observatory, and ordered to the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Lieutenant A. J. Iverson, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Master Wm. M. Paul, from the receiving ship *Ohio*, and ordered to the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Lewis S. Pilcher, from the Naval Hospital, New York, and ordered to the *Relief* on the 20th inst.

Commander Edward E. Potter, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to command the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant-Commander George H. Wadeleigh, from torpedo duty, and ordered to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant Douglas Roben, from the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill., and ordered to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant William A. Morgan, from the receiving ship *New Hampshire*, and ordered to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Master Daniel Delehanty, from the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Passed Assistant Surgeon E. H. Ware, from the Naval Hospital, New York, and ordered to the *Shawmut* on the 15th inst.

Assistant Paymaster John W. Jordan, from the receiving ship *New Hampshire*, and ordered to the steam tug *Speedwell*.

MARCH 4.—Commander J. M. Bradford, as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, Boston, and placed on waiting orders.

Commander Edward Barrett, from ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York, and placed on waiting orders.

RESIGNED.

MARCH 1.—Assistant Surgeon Adam Trau.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending March 4, 1871:

John McGregor, beneficiary, February 24, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

Henry Bouge, ordinary seaman, July 22, 1870, iron-clad *Manhattan*, Mississippi river, opposite New Orleans.

Hugh Stewart, seaman, July 28, 1870, iron-clad *Ajaz*, at sea.

J. G. Talbot, lieutenant, December 19, 1870, U. S. steamer *Saginaw*, at Kalihikai, Island Kauai (Hawaiian Group).

John Andrews, coxswain, December 19, 1870, U. S. steamer *Saginaw*, at Kalihikai.

Peter Francis, quartermaster, December 19, 1870, U. S. steamer *Saginaw*, Kalihikai.

James Muir, captain of hold, December 19, 1870, U. S. steamer *Saginaw*, at Kalihikai.

R. S. De Ford, landsman, February 11, U. S. steamer *Colorado*.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz:

Second Lieutenant C. P. Porter, U. S. Marine Corps.—On March 4, 1871, ordered to take passage in U. S. ship *Relief*, and to relieve First Lieutenant Charles F. Williams, U. S. Marine Corps, from command of marine guard on board U. S. steamer *Plymouth*, European Fleet.

CORONER Herrmann held an inquest on the 4th instant in the case of Joseph G. Swift, who was found dead in his bed at the Hoffman House, New York, on Friday night, March 3. The deceased was a first lieutenant in the Fifth Artillery, stationed at New London, Conn., and came to New York on the 25th ult., ostensibly to consult Dr. Van Buren in relation to a confirmed habit of taking morphine. He left his uncle's house at No. 16 West Thirty-first street on Friday morning, seemingly much depressed in spirits, and stated that he intended going to see his parents in Geneva, N. Y. Mr. James T. Swift, his uncle, heard no more of the deceased until after his death. He supposed he had gone directly home, and feeling anxious, from some unexplained cause, telegraphed to know whether he had arrived safe or not, and was much surprised to learn that he had not been seen or heard of by the family. Mr. Swift then instituted inquiries at the railroad depots and police stations, closing his search by looking over the hotel registers. At the Hoffman House he found Lieutenant Swift's name, and caused his door to be opened, finding his nephew quite dead. In the room was found a bottle containing a quantity of sulphate of morphine, from which a large dose had evidently been taken, as the contents did not come up to the weight marked on the label. Dr. John Beach made a post-mortem examination, and discovered all of the internal organs congested, evidently the result of morphine. The jury, impanelled in the case then rendered the following verdict: "That the deceased came to his death by an overdose of morphine. There being no evidence of suicidal intent, that probably said overdose was taken accidentally." Lieutenant Swift was graduated from the Military Academy and appointed second lieutenant of artillery June 8, 1866. The deceased was a son of Commodore Jonathan W. Swift, of the U. S. Navy, retired, and a grandson of General Joseph G. Swift, late Engineer-in-Chief of the Army. During the first year of the war the deceased served with credit in the Navy. In 1868 he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, which he held at the time of his death. For the past two years he had been an invalid, and resorted to the use of morphine and other stimulants with the hope that they would benefit him.

GENERAL TROCHU.

In an article on General Trochu, the London *Spectator* says:

If we could thoroughly understand the failure of General Trochu, we should understand the cause of the failure of France, which as yet no one quite professes to do. Something is wanting among Frenchmen, something as yet undefinable, and General Trochu, dealing with a representative crowd of Frenchmen, with the population of Paris, with an army recruited from all the provinces, and with mobiles from all the northern departments, has failed to supply that deficiency. To say why he has failed is to state what that deficiency is—the most important and least soluble of the hundred problems raised by the war. The one thing certain is that the want is not of the kind which Englishmen are in the habit of believing. General Trochu possessed in full measure all the qualities in which they are in the habit of placing confidence. He was no untried man, such as they believe Gambetta to be, confident in his own brains and his own principles, full of republican vehemence, and tainted by the southern tendency to gasconade; but a strong cool soldier, who had proved not only in literature, but in actual war, war against Austrians, that he has thoroughly mastered the art as well as the scientific theory of his profession. No one in England would have hesitated to give command to a general of his antecedents, and no one in England doubted that he was precisely the man to organize the fluid enthusiasm for independence and free government which had raised him to power. He was believed then to have the knowledge, the decision, and the ability required for his great task, and now that he has failed, no one seriously doubts that he had them all. There may, of course, be evidence to be produced after the siege; but certainly not one scrap has been forthcoming during its progress to change the original high estimate of his character as a cool, patient Breton gentleman, able to organize, able to keep order, able to lead soldiers to battle—a man externally as like a cultivated English officer of the scientific branches as a French general could be. His personal courage has been conspicuous throughout the siege, has in fact suggested a popular taunt that he wanted death to escape from his position. His patience has been demonstrated by his whole action, by his steadfast adherence to his "plan," which, it now seems clear, was to make Paris impregnable, and then aid the provinces in a rush upon the besiegers. His magnanimity shone out clearly after the October *émeute*, when he refused, very weakly, as many Englishmen thought, to execute any Reds. He doubtless reflected in his cool judicious way that his business was to defend Paris, not to make defense hopeless by inaugurating civil war; but his abstinence from bloodshed on that occasion showed a nature very far removed either from cruelty or from despotism. Of his ability to organize, in the ordinary sense of organizing, no proof is needed beyond the proof that his organization exists. In a city closely invested he has created an artillery, an army, and a system of transport—a feat which, under the conditions, is one of the greatest ever performed by an administrator. He so prepared his supplies that the second capital of Europe has lived on for four months without an ounce of bread from without, and so organized its distribution that, with wages at an end, there has not been a bread riot. The German engineers are alarmed by his works; the German correspondents testify to the power of his artillery; the German precautions show how real they deem his army. He is said to have fed the populace with illusions, but the charge lacks evidence of any kind. That he has held back unfavorable news for a time may be true, but every general claims the right to choose his own moment for announcing depressing facts to his soldiers, who may be at the moment of receipt preparing for an engagement. He has repeatedly published inaccurate news, but he published it as he received it, and had not the slightest means of distinguishing whether confusion existed between hopes and accomplished facts.

The *Herald* notes an interesting fact in connection with the meteorological observations made and reported under the authority of the Government. It says: "For instance, in the official weather report of Sunday last from Washington, at 11:25 P. M., after noting the winds and rains in different sections of the Union, the opinion is given that on Monday 'fair weather, with fresh winds, will probably prevail on the Gulf and Upper Lakes.' The report for Monday is a complete fulfillment of these predictions. This late storm, or 'wet spell,' covered so much of the country east of the Rocky Mountains, that in breaking away the whole intervening country has cleared up." The *Evening Mail* says of this: "One such prediction is worth more to the various interests which depend on weather knowledge than the observations which led to it would cost in ten years."

The Boston *Journal* says that the name of the rebel General J. B. Magruder is still affectionately remembered at Houlton, Me., where he was stationed some thirty years ago. While in that out-of-the-way place he concocted certain sherry cobblers and other drinks after a formula of his own, which has been handed down and is now in the possession of an Aroostook farmer.

At a stated meeting of the Commandery of the State of Massachusetts, M. O., L. L., U. S., held at the Parker House, Boston, on Wednesday evening, March 1, the following were elected companions of the order of the first class: Brevet Major Edwin Dews, Captain John A. Hawes, Captain George M. Whipple, Acting Ensign Gardner A. Churchill, Brevet Major-General Simon G. Griffin, and Captain S. Clarence Ellis.

A STATED meeting of the Commandery of the State of New York, M. O., L. L., U. S., was held at Delmonico's on Wednesday evening, March 1, 1871. The following were elected members of the first class: Brevet Brigadier-General Charles Adams Johnson, Lieutenant-Colonel John Tracey, Jr., and Lieutenant-Colonel Same B. Lawrence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.

AMONG the numerous communications which have come to us from the enlisted men, complaining of mismanagement and deficiencies in the Army, there are several on the subject of clothing. The recent order reducing the allowance for clothing has produced a sensation unparalleled since the famous order in the English army compelling the soldiers to sacrifice their whiskers.

Long and vehement letters have rained down upon us from all quarters. A soldier in Colorado Territory fires what he calls "the first gun toward desertion." For his own good we advise him to let it be the last, as well as the first. He uses a naughty word too in speaking of the Forty-first Congress, unmindful of the maxim "*De mortuis, non loquuntur*," etc. They have, he says, made the soldiers their butt and the victim of their legislation. Though they never tampered with the pay of officers, they reduced the soldier's pay and clothing allowance, and even his "grub," while he is toiling hopelessly on with neither comfort for his portion nor glory for his reward.

A soldier of twelve years' standing sums up the cost of all the items of his necessary outfit, including expenses of alteration of uniform and toilet articles required to make him presentable at dress parade, and comes to the conclusion that but a few cents per month will be left him to pay for tobacco and pipes, reading and writing materials, and his other simple wants. Another writer makes a similar enumeration, with a result not very different from the last. In both cases a period of several months is considered, and it is claimed that the hard drudgery and escort and fatigue duties wear out their clothing so fast as to call for frequent repairs, if not actual renewal.

Another writer in Dakota Territory we will allow to speak for himself:

Thinking that you may be kind enough to listen to grievances of a private soldier, whether real or imaginary, I have taken the liberty to address you on a subject which is a matter of interest to all soldiers. I refer to the allowance of clothing issued by our Uncle to us. Lately the allowance was reduced one-third, but the price of clothing was also reduced in the same proportion. But now the allowance is again reduced, and to such an extent that we are only allowed \$27 for the second year. Now, Mr. Editor, any one knowing anything about the duties of a private soldier will see at a glance that this is not just. We are supposed to turn out clean, and in a uniform that has been altered by the company tailor (as the clothes issued are in every instance a bad fit). We on the frontier posts have a great deal of fatigue duty to do, and this necessarily wears out a great deal of clothing, and \$27 will not pay for one complete suit; and then we must pay out of our pocket the amount due the tailor for altering, etc. Another thing I wish to mention is in regard to the monthly pay of enlisted men.

As you are aware, unless Congress legislates upon this matter, the pay from the 1st of July, 1871, will be reduced to its old standard, viz., \$13 per month. Now I think our pay is small enough, and no inducement is at present offered or men to enlist. Will not some one at Washington, for instance some of the Congressmen who have seen duty in the field, attend to this?

Another correspondent says:

Section 14 of an act of Congress approved July 15, 1870, continues the pay and allowances of the enlisted men of the Army as now fixed by law until June 30, 1871. The allowance for clothing a private soldier at the time this act was passed was \$261.10 for a term of five years. General Order No. 4, current series, fixes the clothing allowance of the private soldier at \$171.77 for a term of five years; this order to go into effect on and after April 1, 1871. Now which is to be considered as authority, the act of Congress which says the allowance shall remain at the rate of \$261.10 for five years, or the order emanating from the Secretary of War which reduces it to \$171.72, to date three months prior to the time fixed by act of Congress?

This correspondent commends the plan of paying the Army suggested by Lieutenant Harkins in his letter to Senator Wilson, and calls attention to the following general orders relating to the pay of enlisted men of the Army, to show that their pay has not been reduced:

Section 1, General Orders No. 216, Adjutant-General's Office, series 1864.

Section 2, General Orders No. 9, Adjutant-General's Office, series 1867.

Section 3, General Orders No. 38, Adjutant-General's Office, series 1869.

Section 14, General Orders No. 92, Adjutant-General's Office, series 1870.

General Orders No. 216, series 1864 (he adds), raises the pay of an enlisted man (say a private) from \$13 to \$16 per month; is there any subsequent order or act that reduces it? I think not; if there is, I will be pleased to have him correct me.

We would remind our correspondent that it is the acts of Congress, and not the general orders of the War Department, that fix the pay of the Army. The pay was temporarily increased by the acts of Congress, but will be reduced again on the 1st of July by the expiration of the period covered by those acts. The new Congress may be persuaded, however, to make the increase of pay permanent.

A QUESTION IN TACTICS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: If our pleasant Oswego companion will solve this military question as agreeably as he solved the "Arabian," he will add to the gratification he has already given your readers.

An officer who had command of fifteen men, prided himself on marching them seven times, three abreast, without ever allowing any two soldiers to be more than once together in the same rank. How did he combine them?

M. O. L. L. U. S.

A RECORD OF MISFORTUNES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Events transpiring at such out-of-the-way places as this seldom come to light through the medium of the public press; but the events of the past few days at this post, which verify the old saying that "Misfortune never comes single," are worthy of note.

On the morning of the 16th instant, Sergeant Hoffell left the post with the mail for Ross Fork, a distance of about fifteen miles; but being unable to get over the mountain with the mule, he tied it to a bush about four miles from the post and walked on to Ross Fork, where he arrived about 3 o'clock P. M., and with the mail for the post started back, but was doomed never to return to the post alive.

Men went out in search of him, and after tracking him off the trail about three miles they lost his tracks in a snow drift, which is estimated to be forty or fifty feet deep. All anxiety for his safety has ceased, as it is certain that he perished in the snow. His friends live in Newark, N. J.

On the same night one of the men lost the two first fingers of his right hand by the accidental discharge of a Springfield rifle, and to-day one of the ice party narrowly escaped drowning in Blackfoot river. All of these affairs, occurring in such quick succession, throw a dampness on our spirits which is impossible to describe.

BANNOCK.

FORT HALL, I. T., February 18, 1871.

BALL AT FORT SHAW, M. T.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: On Christmas night last Company K, Seventh Infantry, gave a ball, which, like others, was a grand affair for the wilds of America, and was highly appreciated by all who attended. The result was that Company H, Seventh Infantry, decided to commemorate the birth of Washington by having a ball that would outstrip their friendly rivals, Company K; and by the indomitable perseverance of a spunky few they succeeded far beyond their highest anticipations. The company's mess room was fitted up for the ball-room, and presented a neat and creditable appearance. On entering from squad room No. 4 the eye was attracted by the innumerable wreaths, artificial flowers, bouquets, pictures, and a brilliant panoramic display illustrative of the company from the date of its first organization up to February 22, 1871. Among the inscriptions were the following:

Date of our nativity, June 26, 1812.

Threw beans at Johnny Bull, at New Orleans, January 8, 1815.

Had friendly sparrings in the following prize fights: Fort Brown, Texas, May 6, 1846; Contreras and Churubusco, August 19 and 20, 1847.

Dancing for ditch, February 22, 1871.

These and other kindred remarks accompany this picture. The main feature of the picture is the road to the Foggy House, illustrating the life of a soldier for twenty years. The road is exceedingly rough and crooked, being filled with all sorts of obstacles, in the shape of trees, rocks, and winding paths. The first five years is represented by a soldier coming down hill with a musket on his shoulder. Ten years is laughably illustrated by two soldiers trying to climb a huge rock, foolishly thinking they can see the Foggy House. Their muskets are leaning against the rock behind them. One has the never-forgotten Paddy's pipe in his mouth; the other is in the act of assisting him up to the top of the rock. Beyond in the dim distance is a soldier with his musket, on a dead run for the Foggy House, he having fifteen years in the service. Just beyond him lies the foot of a huge hill, winding and steep, looming up as it were far beyond the clouds. On its summit stands, towering, amid the cheerful rays of a bright sun, the Foggy House. Grouped around on the green grass in front is a lot of old, broken down fogies, who have fully realized the tough and tedious journey.

On the right of this picture hangs a large portrait of Washington, surmounted by a beautiful silken flag, both being placed in a wreath of evergreen, with the words, "Washington, in memory ever green." A portrait of Colonel Gibbon was decorated with the national ensign and artificial flowers, handsomely arranged. Over the picture were the words, "Our Colonel."

To the right of the entrance stands the music stand, filled by the string band of the Seventh Infantry. Directly over the centre of the room, suspended from the ceiling, is a miniature representation of Fort Shaw, transformed into a chandelier; the officer's quarters, guard house, quartermaster's buildings, and company quarters are standing in bold relief, with flagstaff and colors flying in the centre. Frowning down upon you are two pieces of artillery guarding the colonel's quarters, the whole brilliantly lighted up by stained candles surmounting each chimney.

To the front and right of this hangs another beautiful chandelier, representing slaves before the emancipation. To the rear and left hangs another representing a black and a white man in the act of shaking hands. Over the arch are the words, "Fifteenth Amendment." The above are all neatly executed pieces of wood-work, and credited to the skilful hands of Private Doute, Company H, Seventh Infantry, and his corps of assistants.

After spending some time looking at the objects of interest and beauty, we were called to an "attention" by the musical strains of the band playing to the tune

of Washington's March. After the music ceased, the parties present selected their partners for the promenade, the music again struck up, and thus began one of the most orderly, sociable, and best managed balls which I have witnessed for some time. Light feet kept time to gay music until the hour of twelve arrived, when all present repaired to the supper table to replenish the inner man. The table was loaded with all the delicacies of the season, and looked very attractive with its cut glass, silver, and bouquets of flowers. After doing ample justice to the good things, the party again returned to the ball-room, keeping up the dance until the wee small hours of the morning, when all left for their homes, seemingly fully satisfied with the night's festivities. The jovial and intellectual master of ceremonies, First Sergeant Downs, was as indefatigable as ever, and to him and to the ushers, Messrs. Clark and Wainwright, the crowd present were indebted for assiduous and polite attention. The ladies turned out *en masse* and graced the ball-room with their presence, which added no little animation to the occasion.

R. C. M.

FORT SHAW, M. T., February 23, 1871.

HINTS FOR THE WAR OFFICE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: There are in the United States not far from one hundred and sixty military posts now occupied by troops. At each of these there is employed at least one enlisted man on extra duty as hospital cook, at twenty cents per day exclusive of his pay as soldier. This amounts to \$6 a month or \$72 a year. Or for all the posts, supposing that even the largest have but one hospital cook paid, \$11,520 at the very least, in one year.

The cook of a post hospital has, with very rare exceptions, not half the work to perform that is done by a company cook, who for his services gets no extra pay whatever. The hospital cook, on account of the better diet given the men in the hospital and the little call upon his time, leads a far easier life than the company cook. In time of war and in large hospitals the case might be different; but even then, if he had more to do, he would have assistants given to aid him in proportion to his responsibilities. In time of peace the hospital cook's berth is almost a sinecure, certainly not one calling for extra pay.

As there can be no reasonable excuse given for continuing this expense, why not abolish it and save to the treasury \$11,520 per year?

ARMY BLUE.

THE WEST POINT TROUBLES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In the many accounts of the late mobbing at West Point, and the comments thereon, with which the press has been teeming for weeks past, there seems to be a great disposition to ignore entirely two or three points that are of vital importance to the three youths who were so suddenly and brutally brought to justice by their thirty-eight self-appointed judges.

From earliest childhood we are brought up to detest a lie and its perpetrator, whoever it may be; and though with Shakespeare we may agree that "the world is given to lying," none the less is it abhorrent.

But there are certain forms of untruth in deed, as well as in word, that long custom has made appear more excusable than an actual falsehood.

All boys, in all ages, and in all schools, not excepting West Point, have laid and executed plans to deceive their instructors, and the best and wisest in the land have participated; and so, from time immemorial, it has been customary at West Point to answer "Here" in ranks for absent classmates, to place dummies in beds, and in every possible way to evade the vigilance of the officers; and cadets thus acting successfully have not been "cut" by their own or other classes, but have been held to be "jolly good fellows."

But, professing now to obtain justice for liars was the motive of the mob, in which officers and cadets both have asserted that "no violence was offered" the three boys, two falsehoods can be immediately proved against the high-toned first class.

We will not speak of insubordination, the greatest offence of a soldier, shown in the various acts of arranging for and executing their chivarois intentions, but quote a small paragraph from Blackstone: "The least touching of another's person, wilfully or in anger, is battery; for the law cannot draw the line between different degrees of violence, and therefore totally prohibits the first and lowest stage of it; every man's person being sacred, and no other having a right to meddle with it in the slightest manner."

And as six of these thirty-eight cadets did take the three by each arm, against their will, the rest following to insure their departure, and did threaten them with tar and feathers if they ever reappeared, any one of common sense will admit that they used violence.

The second falsehood that is proved against the first class is an official written lie, in which the first cadet captain reported the three cadets as "absent without leave," deserters in a word, and saw them thus marked in the morning report book, none of the class dissenting. Most of the first class were men over age, several nearly twenty-five years old, and cannot be considered as mere boys; yet every exertion is made to shield and excuse them, while false statements are heaped on their three victims, two of whom, at least, have hitherto borne too excellent reputations to be so severely condemned for one offence.

VERITAS.

The following decision of the Quartermaster-General of the Army, relative to transportation of officers' servants, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned, from headquarters Department of Dakota: "The regulations are not changed in regard to the transportation of officers' servants. An officer when changing station is entitled to transportation of his authorized servants, which transportation must be furnished in kind by the Quartermaster's Department, as under the law no payment in money by this department can be made to the officer as reimbursement of the travelling expenses of his servants."

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P. O. box 3,047. NEW YORK, February 16, 1871.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the officers of the Army and Navy, that having been recently retired from active service, he has opened in this city a Commercial Agency, which will be conducted exclusively in the interest of the Military and Naval service. The object of this Agency is to furnish officers and their commands with every description of Goods, Wares, and Merchandise to be obtained in the markets of this city, and the proprietor hopes by the exercise of energy and good judgment to establish for officers of the service a prompt and reliable medium of supply.

Special attention will be given to the selection of Military and Naval Equipments, and entire satisfaction in this line will be guaranteed.

Further particulars in regard to the character and design of this enterprise will be contained in the business circulars of the Agency now being prepared for distribution, and to which the attention of all is respectfully invited.

THOMAS H. NORTON,
late Captain Eleventh U. S. Infantry.

THE ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.

SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 15, 1871.
To the Members, Society of the Army of the Tennessee.

The fifth regular meeting of the Society will be held in Cincinnati on the 6th and 7th days of April next, convening at 10 o'clock A. M.

Colonel John W. Noble, of the Third Iowa Cavalry, will deliver the annual address, and suitable arrangements for the meeting will be made by the local committee.

Every officer who has at any time served with honor in the Army and Department of the Tennessee is by the constitution entitled to a membership; and all such, as well as members of kindred societies, are cordially invited to attend.

General W. T. SHERMAN, President.

L. M. DAYTON, Rec. Secretary.

A. HICKENLOOPER, Cor. Secretary.

UPWARDS OF FOUR THOUSAND YOUNG LADIES have been educated at LINNEN HALL, Lititz, Lancaster County, Pa., since its foundation in 1794. The best references in every State and Territory in the Union can be given. During the present scholastic year, young ladies from Wyoming, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Oregon, New Jersey, Nevada, Mexico, Massachusetts, Maryland, Kentucky, Iowa, Illinois, District of Columbia, and Delaware have been in attendance.

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THERE was the usual rush of business in the last days of the Forty-first Congress, but little of it was of importance to the Army and Navy. The Navy appropriation bill was passed with a compromise section in relation to Navy rank. Mr. Cragin, a member of the Senate conference committee on the bill, explained, in regard to the provisions regulating naval rank, that the Secretary of the Navy was authorized by the bill to detail a line officer to act as an aid or the executive of a commanding officer, who, when not impracticable, shall be next in rank to the commanding officer, and, when executing the orders of the commanding officer, shall take precedence over all other officers on board ship or at a naval station, and orders from whom are to be regarded as proceeding from the commanding officer. Staff officers who are senior to this executive may communicate directly with the commanding officer. Staff officers are to take precedence of line officers with whom they have relative rank according to length of service in the Navy; in reckoning which, six years are to be allowed to staff officers to compensate for the time the line officers spent at the Naval Academy. The phraseology of the bill was also altered by substituting the words "relative rank of," for "rank with."

The conference committee on the Army bill substituted for the provision inserted by the Senate extending the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims to loyal citizens of the Southern States, the principal feature of a bill passed by the House which authorizes the appointment of a special commission of three, at an annual salary of \$5,000 each, to take into consideration all of these claims, and the Senate agreed to the report by 25 to 21.

The House conference committee on the bill to abolish the grades of admiral and vice-admiral reported in favor of abolishing those ranks after the death of the officers at present holding them; but the time was short, and when the names of about half the members had been called, twelve o'clock struck and the Speaker declared the Forty-first Congress at an end, and the bill failed of its passage.

The Forty-second Congress was immediately organized, and for a time it was doubtful whether any business would be transacted, but a request made by the President to remain in session through the week, in order to receive a message which he is preparing, settled the question.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1871.

Office, No. 39 Park Row, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in a Post Office money order, United States funds, or Quartermasters', Paymasters', or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH. Where none of these can be procured, send the money, but always in a registered letter. The registration fee has been reduced to Fifteen cents, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. All postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

THE END OF THE WAR.

THE preliminaries of peace have been signed by the Emperor of Germany and the President of the French republic. The boundaries between the two countries are published, and are nearly as follows: Commencing at the canton of Cattenon on the Luxembourg frontier and nearly north of Thionville, the line runs southward a little west of Thionville and Metz, and south of the latter town turns southeastward to Schirmeck, a village a little southwest of Strasburg. It then runs parallel to the French Rhine railway to near Belfort, and then to Delle on the Swiss frontier. This gives to Germany all of the Rhine which does not lie in the Alps, and the fortresses of Diedenhof (Thionville), Metz, Strasburg, Schlettstadt, Colmar, and Neu Breisach, besides the less important forts of Pfalzburg, Bitsch, and Weissenburg—to give them all their German spelling. The French troops are to keep behind the Loire until peace is declared, except at Paris and other fortified towns. The Germans are to retire from the left bank of the Seine. When two milliards of the indemnity have been paid, they will retire to the departments of Marne, Ardennes, Upper Marne, Vosges, Meurthe, and the fortress of Belfort; when five hundred million francs have been paid, they will evacuate the forts on the right bank of the Seine at Paris. This consummation, so intensely desired by the French, will probably be reached in a short time. The city itself is already evacuated, the Germans having remained but two days. During this time the papers ceased publication, a fact to which the absence of riot is probably due, the shops were closed, and the despatches represented the streets to be full of "sad and silent" crowds. The truth is that the occupation went off as such things almost always do. Most of the people would not have anything to do with the invaders; others spoke to them, and were beaten for their "treachery" when caught. The only violence or plundering which took place was done by the Parisians.

The Assembly remains at Bordeaux, but will probably move nearer the capital, Versailles being considered the most eligible place. Some radical members have resigned because they considered the cession of territory illegal, and another says he won't resign, but will never enter the Assembly until the cession is rescinded. The pranks of these turbulent men would be of little importance were it not pretty certain that they fairly represent their constituencies. Other of the radicals, including LOUIS BLANC and VICTOR HUGO, made a demand for the detention of the members of the provisional government until they made a full report of their proceedings during the siege of Paris. A M. DELESCLUSE went further and demanded their impeachment and trial for high treason. This cry of treason is quite as great a favorite in France now as in the first days of the war. Everybody who held command is a traitor, and the officer who was ordered to examine the French forts around Paris, and reported that they were knocked to pieces by the German fire, was of course a traitor double-dyed for intimating that French works can be ruined by fire from any guns whatever. The spy business is also looking up with

the return of Englishmen to France. Many of these gentlemen who come with benevolent intent have to expiate their kindness of heart in French jails. In Paris the great amusement of the idle population is to arrest "Prussian officers in disguise."

The Germans have already begun their movement homeward. The Emperor and Prince Imperial—better known as the Crown Prince—leave immediately for Berlin, reviewing the armies as they go. BISMARCK has already reached the capital. Prince FREDERICK CHARLES remains in command of the army of occupation, but it is likely that he too will be released long before the three years allowed for payment have passed, as the Germans expressly agree to accept proper financial instead of territorial guarantees for the payment. Of the indemnity one milliard is to be paid this year and two milliards in each of two succeeding years; but half a milliard is to be deducted as the share of the ceded territory. The final conditions of peace will be settled at Brussels, and will take up several months. VON ARNIM, late North German Minister to Florence, and Baron BAUDE will be the plenipotentiaries, and it is said they have already agreed upon the main points.

A PRIVATE letter just received from a friend who has remained shut up in Paris during the siege gives us so graphic an impression of the experiences of this period that we extract from it the following for the benefit of our readers:

When I look back upon the experiences of the siege it is like looking into a black pit. For six months I was shut in completely from the outer world, and a letter just received brings the first news I have had from home for six months. I have had much to endure, but on the whole got on as well as could be expected. The little store of provisions I had laid by lasted till the end, but only by dint of the most careful management. When the meat was rationed, though it was but 30 grammes (an ounce) for four days, I fared better than before. The line formed by those waiting to purchase tickets for Dickens's first lecture in New York was nothing compared with the queues formed here by purchasers of provisions and other absolute necessities. My fuel lasted through the siege by dint of great management. At the first dinner served me here (at the hotel in Brussels) I had as much meat offered to me as my portion as I consumed in Paris during ten days of the siege, breakfast and dinner together. I did not dare eat much at first, for most of the Parisians who have come here have, I find, made themselves sick from over-eating. I was very much troubled with indigestion for a few days as the result of my long fasting.

I shall never regret, however, having remained through the siege. I gave all my time to an ambulance, spending every afternoon there, and watching one night a week, and for a month or six weeks two nights. We had four hundred patients, about three hundred of whom were in my care. It took an hour and a half each day to walk through and see that all was right. As the result of my experience I can now tell what aile a sick man the moment I look at him, almost without fail. I should like much to know how wounds were treated in our American hospitals during the war. Here they lost twenty-five patients out of twenty-seven among the wounded; all the typhoids died and all the small-pox. It is true the poor fellows suffered for want of proper nourishment, but it seemed to me that the medical treatment was of the worst.

Besides being nearly starved and frozen during the siege, I had more than my share of the risks of war. The house I was in was situated near the Hotel des Invalides, which the Prussians made their *point de mise*, so we found ourselves exactly in the line of fire from the battery of Châtillon to the Invalides. The obus fell like hail all about our quarters. Our house was hit, but on the sixth floor. A great hole was made in the wall, and twenty-five doors shut and locked were torn entirely off their hinges and locks, and rent to pieces. The windows, too, were all broken, but no one was wounded. The shell struck at eleven in the morning. I was in the cellar, where I slept for fifteen nights. The same day the hotel of the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, the second door from us, was hit, but no one was wounded; also the De la Rochefoucauld house, next door to us, and the garden of the convent of the Sacred Heart, opposite, came in for their share. In none of these cases was any one wounded; but in the Rue de Babylone, close by, a man had his head taken off. Yet the people went about nearly as usual.

The Palace of the Luxembourg was especially favored. The obus fell there like hail, and it is said that the Prussians intended to destroy the palace; but by some miracle they failed to even hit it. Our hospital was situated there, and we expected to be obliged to move the patients into the cellars, but the armistice came in time to prevent this.

During the siege Paris was crowded with refugees, so that apartments were scarce. Now there are plenty of them to be had, as every one who can is leaving Paris.

One would think after the lesson the Parisians have had they would learn to behave a little better; but they do not. The shop-keepers are more insolent and unbearable than ever; every one remarks it. The French have been pretty

thoroughly unmasked during the last few months. In the first place, as a nation they are devoid of courage and of patriotism; and as to discipline in their armies, it did not exist. They have proved themselves wanting too in intellectual ability. It is to these defects they owe the disgrace of their country.

The account here given of the hospital service of the French agrees with every other we have had. Even in the matter of contagious complaints, the control of which the French were supposed to have systematized so completely, the war has discovered the greatest laxity of management. As in so much else, the Germans have surpassed their teachers in this matter too. It is urged in England in defence of the proposed contagious disease act, that the French army was so searched through and through by private diseases, that its strength was seriously impaired by this cause alone. The Germans who had used the system of control while the French had boasted of it, sent healthy and strong men to the campaign.

The writer from whose letter we have quoted, has not been locked up with the Parisians for more than four months without forming some opinion of the war and the people who were carrying it on. The verdict given, is more sweeping than we should write from this distant point of view, but at a time when Paris is in a terribly threatening mood, and no one can say that the next sun will not dawn upon a reign of terror, it is not well to criticise too sharply the judgment of one who has been in daily contact with the Parisian people at a time when excitement crushed the fragile shell which in every-day life hides the real qualities of every people.

One thing has come to the surface in this war, which is ominous of an unhealthy future to France. It is that the people have proved themselves behind their leaders. The nation howled out denunciations of the invader, but could only simulate the spirit of resistance which moved GAMBETTA so strongly. Paris talks yet of being the centre of civilization; but during the siege the signs of civilization and humanity were exhibited almost solely by TROCHU, FAVRE, and their colleagues. Wherever the French people has filled the scene, it has proved itself turbulent, brutal, and incapable. We are uttering no tirade against the unfortunate French—unhappy we cannot call them, for they still think themselves the envy of the world. The qualities to which we point are something more than disagreeable to foreigners, they are dangerous to France. The nation is entering upon some of the most formidable tasks ever undertaken; to form a nation of freemen after eighteen years of a slavery which has apparently thoroughly emasculated the people; to assume a great debt, and impose enormous payments upon a poor and almost ruined population. If these great labors are successfully accomplished, France will deserve every honor she claims for herself. But the alternative of this success is a degradation and fall as great as any nation, of modern times at least, has ever experienced.

Whatever the future of France may be, she will have no claim that the world deserted her in her extremity. The sympathy of her neighbors has been constant, and their efforts for her many. Speaking for ourselves, it is matter of history that our Government gave the republic recognition in a crisis when an outspoken word of sympathy had ten-fold value. If the feeling of our people is considered, it will be found that judgment has been often suspended because we felt that it must be unfavorable to an already stricken people.

IT is understood that the President will send to the new Congress a message upon the condition of affairs in the Southern States. The deeds of violence which are of daily occurrence there, and the fact that they are the work of a faction organized for the express purpose of defying the Government, make the subject of more than ordinary importance. Governor SCOTT of South Carolina is now asking permission of the President to open military operations upon the "Ku-Klux" in his State, the forces used to be State troops paid by the United States. The chief constable of the State reports that in Laurens county, since the 19th of October, 1870, there have been thirteen prominent men killed; in one day fifty men and women were brutally whipped and maltreated, and 150 persons driven from their homes; that in Union county two trial justices and one probate judge had been killed,

fifteen men taken from jail and shot or hung, and about seventy-five barbarously scourged and whipped; and relating similar outrages in Spartanburg, York, and Abbeville counties. But the work of violence is not directed against defenceless citizens alone. It is reported that a company of United States troops, who proposed to go by railroad from Columbia, had the rails torn up in their front by a band of armed men, and had to march on foot. The Republican members of the Legislature felt it necessary to hire men to picket the roads while that body was in session, having reasonable fears of an attack.

These things have impelled the public men of South Carolina to go to Washington for the purpose of urging upon the Government the necessity of using vigorous measures to end this new insurrection. What the result will be it is impossible to say, but there is no likelihood that the Government of 1871 will imitate that of 1861. Grant is not Buchanan, and the present Congress is not one to put up with rebellion and outrage because a few of its members spout about the horrors of war and the rights of States.

It will be seen from General Orders No. 17, published this week, that the Government has already acted on its account in this matter, an additional regiment of infantry having been sent to Louisville, Kentucky, another State where lawlessness is carried to its utmost extent.

A CORRESPONDENT in the JOURNAL of February 28 quotes from a daily paper which amuses itself with a sale of Government property in which the expense of advertising exceeded the proceeds of the sale, and wants to know what is the principle underlying the regulations in this case. We omitted to answer him at the time, but may say for his information and that of others, that the principle is that sales should be advertised, so that fair competition may be invited, no favoritism exercised, and no officer come under suspicion of jobbery or corruption. It cannot be doubted that the regulation is a good one—a safeguard to the Treasury, and a still greater safeguard to the officer who has to dispose of the property; and that on the whole the gains under the general operation of the regulation far exceed the losses. In this case, perhaps, the United States spent twenty-five dollars more than it received; but the sales of Government property since the war have probably exceeded thirty millions of dollars, and in the whole thirty millions or more the observance of the regulation saved the Government some millions. It also aided in keeping the honor and reputation of the officers bright, for in no one sale effected under this system has an officer's conduct been called in question.

IN answer to the complaint which we published last week from "A Victim," a correspondent asks indignantly:

Who has ever seen a paymaster or his clerk present the cash-book to an officer for his signature? What officer whose pay is \$1,800 per annum is so ignorant of figures as to take \$130 per month, and thereby enable the paymaster or clerk to alter the figures to \$150 after he had left the office? The officers of the Navy, with the exception probably of "A Victim," are always competent to figure their monthly pay, it being only a sum in short division to divide their annual pay by twelve. There are a few officers in the service who are a constant source of annoyance to the paymasters in the Navy by begging for money every few days; and the consequence is that when pay-day comes, those officers, forgetting how often they have been to the "mill" during the month, and not sufficiently educated in arithmetic to keep the account, are surprised at the small balance coming to them. Their remarks after they leave the pay office are not always favorable to the paymaster and his clerks. This is the class of officers that are never grateful for the facilities extended to them by paymasters, and, in return for the many favors granted them in weekly and even semi-weekly payments, rush to the journals with statements impeaching the character of their benefactors, and offering ridiculous suggestions on subjects that they have not brains enough to understand, nor common sense enough to let alone.

I would suggest to the "Victim" to take a course of instruction in the simple rule of short division; and then if he cannot master the figures so as to know how much money he should receive monthly, let him purchase a copy of a work published by a clerk in the Navy, and he will see there how much he is entitled to receive; and it will not avail the paymaster anything to alter the figures to a larger amount than the law allows him to pay the officer. As for "Victim's" suggestion that the paymaster should furnish the officers with memorandums of the amount of money they pay them, it would not do any good in his case, for he would not, in my opinion, be able to add them together after he received them.

THE following order will correct the paragraph in the JOURNAL of February 25, in which Professor Bartlett of the Military Academy was inadvertently alluded to as

deceased, instead of retired. It is a most justly deserved tribute to one whose long service in connection with the department of military instruction has made his name a household word in our Army:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY,
WEST POINT, March 8, 1871.

Special Orders No. 27.

1. Professor William H. C. Bartlett, having been placed on the retired list of the Army at his own request, will transfer the apparatus and charge of his department to his successor, and is hereby relieved from duty at the Military Academy.

2. In thus severing the connection of Professor Bartlett, after a period of nearly thirty-seven years' service at the Military Academy, as the head of the department of natural and experimental philosophy, the superintendent, as one of his former pupils, is moved to express his emotion at the thought of separating from one whose career has been so useful, and contributed to so great an extent in establishing the scientific reputation of the institution.

Appointed to the station he has just vacated at a period when the number of graduates barely exceeded 700, Professor Bartlett has lived to see nearly 1,600 graduates pass through the department over which he presided, and subsequently occupy almost every position in civil and military life to which the ambition of man may aspire.

Wherever Professor Bartlett may go, whatever sphere of life he may occupy, the kindly feelings of his old pupils, and the unabated esteem of his associates, officers, professors, and cadets, will follow him.

3. Captain Peter S. Michie, Corps of Engineers, having been appointed professor of natural and experimental philosophy, will relieve Professor Bartlett as the head of that department.

By command of Colonel Pitcher.

EDWARD C. BOYNTON, Brevet Major and Adjutant.

GENERAL Sherman, President of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, has issued the call for the annual reunion of that society, which is to be held in Cincinnati on the 6th and 7th of April. A meeting was held in that city recently to make the necessary arrangements. Colonel L. M. Dayton, who presided, on motion appointed Generals Force, Yorke, and Hickenlooper, Colonels Dayton, Wise, and Moulton, and Major Mills a general committee of arrangements. The Society of the Army of the Potomac is to meet at Boston the same month, but thus far we have not received any announcement in regard to the proposed arrangements. Nor have the members of the society been furnished with the report of the proceedings of the last annual meeting, to which the constitution entitles them. We expect to hear from the officers of the society in some form ere long.

JUST previous to the close of the session of the Forty-first Congress a meeting was held in Washington of the discharged soldiers who served in our Army during the war, its object being to urge the passage of the bill giving soldiers special privileges under the homestead law, and to determine upon some measures of co-operative action in case the bill became a law, which it failed to do. Hon. John M. Crebs presided at this meeting. Mr. J. B. Hodnett acted as secretary, and General Hugh Cameron, Colonel J. H. Leavenworth, and J. P. Hodnett were appointed a committee to forward the passage of the bill. The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to look up information with reference to the location and quality of lands in the West, and to prepare statements that could be considered reliable with reference to the rights of soldiers as to homesteads under the laws of Congress, and to do whatever else would tend to give to those comrades who desire to avail themselves of the privileges of the homestead acts correct information, and prevent their being imposed on: Hon. John B. Hays, of Illinois; General Hugh Cameron, Colonel D. S. Curtis, J. P. Hodnett, W. R. Laughlin, Charles Farquhar, Colonel J. H. Leavenworth, William Major, and Hon. John M. Crebs. The bill failed to pass the Senate before the expiration of the session, March 4. It will now have to make a new start in the House, and go to the Senate a second time. We know of no reason, however, why it should not succeed in the end, and we are confident that if our honorable representatives knew how much interest the soldiers take in the measure, and how much it would probably contribute to the settlement of the West, they would not keep the would-be farmers waiting.

A PRIVATE letter has been received at Washington from Florence, Arizona, in which the writer says: "The Indians are worse in Arizona to-day than they have ever been before. Within the past two weeks they have attacked and killed or captured three different parties within twenty miles of this place. One party of four men, in charge of two five-mule teams laden with barley—one of the staple products of the Territory—was attacked and one man killed, the others escaping after a vigorous fight. A day or two subsequently the Indians attacked a foraging party, consisting of three men with a four-horse team. Two of the men were killed and the team captured. The next we heard of the Indians was that they killed two men who were passing on horseback from Sacaton to Salt river."

VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—No. VIII.

THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1871, by W. C. & F. P. Church, in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

DRESS.

THE United States cavalry uniform is quite comfortable, no doubt. But there is as little doubt that it is by all odds the most completely hideous under the sun.

Especially is this the case with the present regulation hat. Without its brasswork, in the simplicity of its native felt, it is a steeple-crowned reminiscence of Praised God Barebone and the Rump Parliament, anything else but martial and heroic. Cocked up at one side, with its shabby-looking brass ornaments, and one little mangy feather, it reminds one of a broken-down brigand. Anything more hideous was never put on a soldier's head.

I remember well, that when first my old regiment was mounted and sent to the front, the road was strown for miles with "that d——d old hat," as our men called it, thrown away as soon as our parade days were over. Afterwards, for a couple of years, there was no sort of regularity in head coverings. A dress parade of one of our regiments reminded one of Donnybrook Fair, as regards hats. Every sort of battered old tile was used and the effect was ludicrous. But when Sheridan took command, by a general order he compelled the adoption of the forage cap, and after that there was no trouble. True, the regulation forage cap, as issued, was even more worthless than the hat, in point of make. But the sutlers sold very nice little caps of similar pattern, and nine-tenths of the men preferred paying two dollars for a decent and serviceable cap, to drawing one at sixty cents, literally worthless.

Army caps ought to be made of cloth alone. The visor of leather is only a nuisance. The red fez of the Zouave is the most comfortable and convenient of any. All the contractors in the world cannot make it stiff and ungainly. The kepi, on the other hand, as we use it, is a miserably poor cap, which the first shower puts out of shape, and ruins for good, on account of the leather and pasteboard.

For the cavalry of the future we should decidedly recommend one of these patterns: the fez with its tassel, or a cap of the same kind as the ordinary Astrachan skating cap, something like the old turban or "porkpie hat" ladies used to wear.

Both are comfortable. They can be used to sleep in. They are jaunty and soldier-like. If ornamented with lace, or in different colors, they are very handsome. And lastly, the rain will not spoil them, and the contractors cannot make them ugly. A disk of cloth, with a broad band at right angles to its edge, is the fundamental principle of both, and there need be no pasteboard in them, to warp in rain and sunshine.

When we come to the rest of the cavalry uniform, we find but little modification necessary. The uniform jacket is hideous simply from the yellow lace. Strip that off, cut down the collar to one-half the height, and you have a neat, simple uniform. The service uniform of the cavalry corps under Sheridan was all that could be desired for work. Under a general order the men wore only the flannel blouse instead of the dress jacket, and their looks were decidedly improved thereby. This was well enough. But by experience the men learned one thing, that trousers are not the things for cavalrymen, especially in winter. Almost without exception they purchased jack-boots, and found themselves vastly benefited by the change. In the cavalry of the future the lesson should not be lost.

After careful comparison of cavalry uniforms in all parts of the world, the one that strikes the eye as best adapted for work in all weathers is a modification of the Hungarian hussar dress.

The light breeches and Hessian boots are the very things for riding. They give to the legs a grasp on the horse impossible in loose trousers. In muddy weather there is no bedraggled cloth to hang about the feet and ankles. They are equally good for dismounted fighting in brushwood. The dolman need not of necessity be tight, and the hanging jacket is an execrescence. A spencer cut in to the form, neither tight nor loose, reaching to the saddle, and barred across the breast, is an equally common form of the dress, and the fur cap is not high or cumbersome.

We are decidedly of opinion that the spencer, with tight breeches and boots and a light cap, is as good a uniform for real hard work as can be made. Everything is close, and nothing is left to fly away here and there. With regard to the color, I suppose we shall have to stick to the dark and light blue; but if there is a color not now in use which is good for active service, it is gray. An unfortunate prejudice will no doubt exist against it for many years yet in the United States, on account of its having been the uniform of the rebellion; but since it were carried by almost all our men during the war.

has been adopted as the militia dress in many States of the Union, we hope that the prejudice will die away. Apart from the associations, it is an excellent color. It has the great advantage of being unlike any other national uniform. Our present dress is nothing but a copy of the Sardinian in colors, and the sooner it is changed the better. Gray possesses the quality of invisibility in action, a most valuable one. Our own men will often remember the ghostly gray lines of the rebel infantry in the battle-fields of the past, and how difficult it was to catch sight of them. And with regard to prejudice, if our enemy has a good thing in his possession, and we can use it, we are foolish to let prejudice interfere with our benefit.

The disadvantage of gray is that it gets dingy and shabby soon. But this objection is remedied by trimming it with black. Any uniform of a single color gets shabby when the color fades. It is the contrast of trimmings that makes an old uniform look respectable to the last. Gray or bluish-gray barred with black makes a neat and very handsome uniform. Its effect as seen in the New York militia, in several of its regiments, is very soldierly, neat, and handsome. Any uniform barred across the breast has a fine effect, and as such are generally double-breasted, another item is gained in comfort and warmth. A soldier's coat ought to be double-breasted. It lasts longer, looks better, and keeps the place warm that most needs it, his chest.

As for material of clothes, there is but one article in a cavalryman's dress that needs special mention, i.e., his trousers or breeches, whichever they be. Cloth very soon wears out under the incessant bumping of a cavalry soldier. A pair of ordinary trousers goes in three weeks, and the reinforce of cloth will not save a pair over two months. The reinforce, to be of any good, must be of leather, as in European cavalry. A single pair of trousers will then last a year and look decent, where three are now insufficient.

The sooner the Government discards trousers and adopts tight breeches for cavalry use, the better. Jockeys, hunters, and grooms, all those whose avocations lead them among horses and who desire a firm seat, wear breeches and boots. The cavalry should do the same. The material ought to be buckskin if possible; but as that is far too expensive for private soldiers' use, its common substitute, corduroy or moleskin, is equally good in its way. A still cheaper and even stronger material for breeches to stand hard usage is canvas or sailcloth. This is almost everlasting, and costs but little, besides being easily cleaned either by washing or pipe-clay. If ever introduced, it will be found imitable in its way.

WASHING AND PREVENTION OF VERMIN.

On long summer campaigns it quite frequently happens that the men are compelled to march and fight for weeks together without changing their underclothes. Washing is a luxury that those clothes never know for weeks at time, the allowance of soap being small and irregular. The only time it is possible is when a day's rest near a stream comes, and then it is hastily and imperfectly performed. The consequence with woollen underclothes is very simple, i.e., vermin. They accumulate in a miraculously short time, and are almost impossible to get rid of. The greatest care is hardly sufficient to avert them in many cases, and they spread like magic, forming an intolerable nuisance, and a very wearing hardship to the sufferers.

Now from very disagreeable and painful experience the writer can testify that woollen underclothes in the summer are a terrible nuisance from this cause. If all the medical men in the United States were to swear to the contrary, he would still maintain that woollen underclothes for summer wear are totally unfit for soldiers. They may possibly avert some colds, but they are certain to breed vermin; and I for one would rather undergo the remote chance of a possible cold to the certain misery in ten days of vermin.

If there is one thing more than another that I would urge, it is to have the summer underclothes of cotton or linen, smooth. They are easier washed, dry quicker, and there is no cover for the vermin to harbor.

I may be thought singular in mentioning a subject usually ignored, but I know so well the universal misery caused by the pest of lice that I desire to save my comrades of the future from much that befell us ignorantly. If vermin do get into the clothes spite of precautions, the only way to kill them is to boil the clothes, and that for a cavalryman is well nigh an impossibility. The quickest and easiest thing to do is to throw them away.

So much for dress in summer campaigns. In the winter flannel is a good thing, and a long overcoat is good thing too. Our present cavalry overcoat is an excellent one, and when lined throughout with thick flannel, instead of the wretched stuff generally put in, is as good as can be worn.

A sleeping blanket, piece-shelter tent, and poncho

With the horse blanket they made an excellent bed. But the horse blanket should not be taken for the purpose. It may be wanted in a hurry.

In the summer time a single blanket is amply sufficient to keep a man warm, but in the winter the case is different. Oftentimes, then, the cold of the ground strikes through all that a man can put there. In such a case, old campaigners will make themselves warm where young ones would freeze. Clubbing together in threes and fours, they make a common bed together, over which stretches a large and comfortable shelter tent, and thus illustrate the advantages of union.

SHELTER TENTS.

The shelter tent, as taken from the French, needs a change very much. Theoretically, two men are supposed to unite to make a tent. Practically, they might as well have none at all if they obey the regulations. They secure for themselves an open shed, which is of just no use at all. If it rains, the rain beats in at one or both ends. If it doesn't rain, the shelter may be dispensed with.

The fact is, that it takes three pieces of the present shape to make a tent that will shed water, or be any good. And three men are too much for one tent. A very little reform would make the shelter tent much better, even if used according to the regulations.

Instead of a square piece of cloth, as at present, it should have at either end a triangular flap, which would button over, and so make a tent close at both ends.

The dimensions of the quadrangle should be 6 by 5 ft.; the triangular part should have a base of about 3 ft. or 40 in. With a shelter tent of this kind, no man need carry more than one piece, and so the weight would be reduced, and the tent be even better than at present.

Thus supplied, any regiments who have used it will agree that the shelter tent is a most valuable gift to the soldier, rendering him independent and comfortable at all times and places. It is infinitely better than the European practice of bivouacking in the open air, or billeting in houses, and possesses none of the disadvantages of transportation incident to ordinary tents.

Shelter tents have been often issued in the United States Army, made of oiled linen or india-rubber, and in the form of ponchos, with a hole in the middle to put the head through, covered by a flap. Once or twice I have seen them put up as tents, but their more general use was to cover the person from rain, and to keep the wet of the ground in the tent from striking through the blankets at night.

These ponchos are excellent things. The proof is, that they were in universal use among our men, who were very quick to reject the bad and take the good. If made in the form suggested above, they might even supersede the shelter tent, and so reduce the weight, for some india-rubber covering is almost a necessity, and certainly a great comfort, to men campaigning.

In pitching tents for a long stay, a ditch should in all cases be cut around them, the deeper the better. It drains the ground and prevents rheumatism, the only disease that affects men campaigning.

INTELLIGENCE has been received at Lieutenant-General Sheridan's headquarters in Chicago, from Fort Laramie and other points in Wyoming Territory, that the Indians are breaking up their camps north of the Pacific railroad, and are preparing to move south on the opening of spring to occupy their reservations in the Indian Territory. The Arapahoes are the foremost in the movement, having started on the journey in large numbers. The apprehensions which the recent despatches to Washington aroused that the breaking up of winter would at the same time cause trouble among the savages themselves as well as the whites, are dispelled to a certain extent by information that the Government agents are actively engaged in assisting the movement of the tribes, so that everything is expected to pass off smoothly, and war, it is thought, will be avoided. There are great numbers of Indians in the region of the Union Pacific railroad and in Wyoming Territory, but all the tribes, including the Arapahoes and other bands, are disposed to be peaceable, and, if the Sioux do not disturb them, the prospect now is that the summer will see all the savages safely withdrawn to their reservations.

UNDER present circumstances it is not uninteresting to revert to former sieges of Paris. In the year 1290 Henry IV. reduced the city by hunger. De Thou describes this event in his history as follows: "The want of provisions had weakened not only the inhabitants but the troops to such an extent that they were not able to defend themselves. Meat was unknown in Paris, and the soldiers had to support themselves on the leaves and roots which they dug out from between the stones. In the public places and at the corners of the streets stood pots in which oatmeal porridge, the only food which still remained, was cooked. The most terrible disease broke out. In three months 12,000 people died. The streets echoed with the groans of the dying and the sights of the starving. There was no more bread. All the dogs had been caught, principally by the Germans who had the post of doorkeepers, and are a people naturally savage (*gens naturellement féroces*). Parents ate their children, and at length, by the advice of the Spanish ambassador, bread was made of the ground bones and skulls of the dead; but this had to be abandoned, as the people who ate of it died miserably."

CHRONICLE OF THE WAR.

JANUARY.

28. The failure of the sortie of January 19 was so seriously felt in Paris that Jules Favre, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Government for the National Defence, opened negotiations with Count Bismarck on the 23d. After several days' deliberation, and often returning to Paris, he at length appears with General Beaufort on the 27th, and the conditions of the capitulation of Paris and a three weeks' armistice are decided. The convention is signed on the 28th, and its text is as follows:

CONVENTION.

Between the Count Bismarck, Chancellor of the Germanic Confederation, acting in the name of His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, King of Prussia, and M. Jules Favre, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Government of the National Defence, armed with regular powers, the following agreements are concluded:

ARTICLE 1. A general armistice over the whole line of military operations in course of execution between the German armies and the French armies will commence at Paris this same day; in the departments, after a delay of three days. The continuance of the armistice will be twenty-one days, to date from to-day; so that, saving the case of its being renewed the armistice will terminate everywhere on February 19, at noon.

The belligerent armies will retain their respective positions, which will be separated by a line of demarcation. That line will extend from Pont l'Eveque, upon the border of the department of Calvados, to Lignières in the northeast of the department of the Mayenne, passing between Briouze and Fromental; touching the department of the Mayenne at Lignières, it will follow the boundary which separates that department from that of the Orne and of the Sarthe to the north of Morannes, and will continue in such a way as to leave to the German occupation the departments of the Sarthe, Indre-et-Loire, Loir-et-Cher, Loiret, and the Yonne, as far as a point east of Quare les Tombes, touching the departments of the Côte d'Or, of the Nièvre, and of the Yonne. From this point, the course of the line will be left to an agreement which will take place as soon as the contracting parties are informed upon the actual situation of military operations in execution in the departments of the Côte d'Or, the Doubs, and the Jura. In any case it will traverse the territory composed of these three departments, leaving to the German occupation the departments situated to the north, and to the French army those situated to the south of that territory.

The departments of the north and of the Pas de Calais, the fortresses of Givet and of Langres, with the territory which surrounds them for a distance of ten kilometres, and the peninsula of Haye as far as a line drawn from d'Etretat in the direction of St. Romain, will remain without the German occupation. The two belligerent armies and their advance posts on both sides will hold themselves at a distance of at least ten kilometres from the lines traced to separate their positions.

Each of the two armies reserves to itself the right to maintain its authority in the territory which it occupies, and to employ the means which its commandants judge necessary to arrive at that end.

The armistice is equally applied to the naval forces of the two countries, adopting the meridian of Dunkerque as the line of demarcation, to the west of which the French fleet will hold itself, and to the east of which the German vessels of war which are found in eastern waters will retire as soon as they can be notified. The captures which may be made after the conclusion and before the notification of the armistice will be restored; as well as the prisoners which may be made on one side or the other, in engagements which may take place in the interval indicated. The military operations upon the region of the departments of the Doubs, of the Jura, and of the Côte d'Or, as well as the siege of Belfort, will continue, independent of the armistice, up to the moment of agreeing upon the line of demarcation, of which the course across the three departments mentioned has been reserved for a subsequent understanding.

ART. 2. The armistice thus agreed upon has for its object to permit the Government of the National Defence to convoca an Assembly freely elected, which shall pronounce upon the question, to wit: Whether the war shall be continued, or upon what conditions peace ought to be made.

The Assembly will meet in the city of Bordeaux.

Every facility will be given by the commanders of the German armies for the election and meeting of the deputies who are to compose it.

ART. 3. There will be made immediately a surrender to the German army by the French military authority of all the forts forming the perimeter of the exterior defence of Paris, as well as of their material of war. The communes and the houses situated outside of that perimeter or between the forts may be occupied by the German troops as far as a line to be traced by the military commissioners. The ground remaining between that line and the fortified wall of the city of Paris will be forbidden to armed forces of both parties. The manner of surrendering the forts and the course of the line mentioned will form the object of a protocol to be annexed to the present convention.

ART. 4. During the continuance of the armistice the German army will not enter within the city of Paris.

ART. 5. The wall (*enceinte*) will be disarmed of its cannons, the carriages of which will be transported to the forts to be designated by a commissioner of the German army.

ART. 6. The garrisons (army of the line, mobile guards, and marines) of the forts and of Paris will be prisoners of war, save a division of 12,000 men, which the military authority in Paris will preserve for interior service.

The troops, prisoners of war, will deposit their arms, which will be collected in the designated places and delivered according to rule by commissioners according to custom; the troops will remain in the interior of the city, the wall of which they may not pass during the armistice. The French authorities will have the charge of watching that every individual belonging to the army and to the mobile guard will remain consigned to the interior of the city.

The officers of the imprisoned troops will be designated by a list to be sent to the German authorities.

At the expiration of the armistice all the soldiers belonging to the army consigned in Paris will have to constitute themselves prisoners of war to the German army if the peace is not concluded by then.

The surrendered officers will retain their arms.

ART. 7. The Garde Nationale will retain its arms; it will be charged with the guard of Paris and the maintenance of order. It will be the same with the gendarmerie and the assimilated troops employed in the municipal services, such as the republican guard, custom-house officers, and firemen; the total of this category shall not exceed 3,500 men.

All the corps of francs-tireurs will be dissolved by an ordinance of the French government.

ART. 8. As soon as possible after the signature of these presents and before taking possession of the forts the commander-in-chief of the German armies will give every facility to the commissioners whom the French government may send, as well to the departments as abroad, to prepare the revictualling, and to bring near to the city the merchandise which is destined there.

ART. 9. After the surrender of the forts, and after the disarmament of the *enceinte* and of the garrison stipulated in articles 5 and 6, the revictualling of Paris shall go on freely by means of the railways and rivers.

The provisions destined for this revictualling cannot be drawn from the region occupied by the German troops, and the French government engages to make the acquisition outside of the line of demarcation which surrounds the positions of the German armies by means of the counter authorisation given by the commandant of the latter.

ART. 10. All persons who wish to quit the city of Paris must be provided with regular permits, delivered by the French military authority, and submitted to the inspection of the German advance posts. These permits and *visas* will be accorded by right to the candidates to the depuration from the country and to the deputies to the Assembly.

The circulation of the persons who may have obtained the authorization indicated will not be permitted except between the hours of 6 in the morning and 6 at night.

ART. 11. The city of Paris will pay a municipal contribution of war of the sum of two hundred millions of francs. This payment will have to be completed before the fifteenth day of the armistice. The mode of payment will be determined by a mixed commission, German and French.

ART. 12. Daring the continuance of the armistice there will be nothing removed from the public property capable of serving as gage for the recovery of the contributions of war.

ART. 13. The importation into Paris of arms, of munitions, or of materials serving for their fabrication, will be interdicted during the continuance of the armistice.

ART. 14. The exchange of all the prisoners of war who have been made by the French army since the commencement of the war will be immediately proceeded with. To this end the French authorities, after the shortest delay, will send lists naming the German prisoners of war to the military authorities at Amiens, Le Mans, Orleans, and Vesoul. The liberation of the German prisoners of war will take place at the points nearest to the frontier. The German authorities will send in exchange to the same point, and after the least possible delay, an equal number of French prisoners of war of corresponding grades to the French military authorities.

The exchange will extend to prisoners of the *bourgeoisie* condition, such as the captains of vessels of the German merchant marine and the French civil prisoners who have been confined in Germany.

ART. 15. A postal service for letters not sealed will be organized between Paris and the departments by way of the general headquarters at Versailles.

In faith of which the undersigned have invested the present convention with their signatures and their seals.

Done at Versailles January 28, 1871.

BISMARCK.
FAVRE.

20. Despatch from the Emperor of Germany:

Yesterday evening a three weeks' armistice was signed. Line and mobile are prisoners of war and confined in Paris. Garde Nationale Sédentaire undertakes the maintenance of order. We occupy all forts. Paris remains blockaded, and may victual itself when the arms have been delivered.

A Constituent Assembly will be called at Bordeaux in fourteen days. The armies in open field retain possession of their several districts, with neutral zones between them.

This is the first blessed reward for the patriotism, the heroic courage, and the heavy sacrifices. I thank God for this new mercy; may the peace follow soon. WILLIAM.

The occupation of St. Denis and the forts about Paris takes place without opposition.

The advance guard of the south army (Fourteenth division) reached this afternoon the retreating French army five miles west of Pontarlier on the Swiss border. The villages Sombatout and Chaffois taken by storm. In these engagements the Germans take ten guns, seven mitrailleurs, two generals, forty-five officers, and about 4,000 men.

30. Manteufel's army takes Frasne with 2,000 prisoners and two eagles. The roads are covered with arms thrown away by Bourbaki's men, who now have no means of escape on French soil.

30. To the Empress and Queen in Berlin:

The surrender of the forts, including St. Denis, took place yesterday without any opposition or disturbance.

From our siege batteries I saw the Prussian flag float over Lesy.

To-day thaw and snow.

Just now the Fifth Rifle battalion came in, which since the 19th of September has stood on foreposts, and still looked excellent; it lost in the last sortie 5 officers and 80 men.

WILLIAM.

FEBRUARY.

1. Despatch from the Emperor:

Bourbaki's army, about 80,000 strong, has gone over to neutral Switzerland near Pontarlier by convention. That is, then, the fourth French army which has been made incapable of further resistance.

WILLIAM.

Garibaldi escapes Bourbaki's fate by making a rapid retreat. Dijon is occupied by the Germans after a slight engagement. The German Army of the South, under Manteufel, has captured in three days 2 eagles, 10 guns and mitrailleurs, 2 generals, and about 15,000 men. Its own losses were 600 killed and wounded.

The French authorities finding that they made an error of eight days in calculating the amount of provisions left in Paris, and that the supply would run out, the German Emperor orders three million rations to be sent from the German stores.

5. Despatch from the Emperor:

On account of the last decisive battles, the forced passage of the hostile corps, 20,000 strong, to Swiss territory, as well as for the completed occupation of all the forts around Paris, the victory salute shall be fired.

WILLIAM.

SOME anonymous friend of the late Provost-Marshal-General, Colonel Fry, has forwarded him from Maine a copy of the *Portland Daily Advertiser* containing an extract from a report made by certain commissioners, acting under the authority of the Maine Legislature, in the investigation of enlistment frauds during the late war. In the course of their report, of which Colonel Fry has since obtained a complete copy, they indulge themselves in some reflections upon his official character and the conduct of his bureau during the war. The Colonel is naturally indignant that an investigation of this nature, professing to deal with the transactions of his office and throwing aspersions on his official character, should be conducted without calling on him for any information or giving him the slightest opportunity to be heard.

He has accordingly issued in reply a circular letter, in which he effectually disposes of the charges brought against him, showing that the instructions given by him to a commission appointed to determine the credits to which the State of Maine was entitled were, whether right or wrong, not his own, but those of Mr. Stanton, and were contrary to his own recommendations. In regard to the other charges he says:

Besides the charge I have just explained, the commissioners say that by mere private endorsement credit was allowed for a Marine Corps list in the hands of Pike and Colby to districts and subdistricts in Maine, and that by similar endorsement a like credit was allowed upon a list in the hands of G. P. Cochrane to districts and subdistricts in the State of —. The commissioners say there does not seem to them to have been the slightest "pretense of law or property" to vindicate the allowance of these two lots of credits. Let us see first as to the "law." The act of July 4, 1861, section 8, governing on this subject, said the men therein described should be credited "upon satisfactory proof of their residence being made"—not to these commissioners, but "to the Secretary of War." As the commissioners do not know, or even pretend to know, that "satisfactory proof" was not made "to the Secretary of War," their charge must be regarded as the mere assertion of a negative. Granting for the sake of the argument that with all that "wisdom after the fact, acquired by the light of six years," the commissioners have ascertained that the truth regarding some or all of these credits would not justly justify their allowance, and still it will not follow that they ought not to have been allowed at the time or proof that was then satisfactory to the Secretary of War. It is sufficient on the point of "property" to say that the action in these cases cannot be properly passed upon without a full knowledge of the circumstances under which it was taken. The commissioners lacked that knowledge, and could not have acquired it, even if they had tried to do so. So much for the general features of such credits as were allowed.

Now in relation especially to the so-called "Marine Corps list" and the "list held by G. P. Cochrane," which the commissioners say were credited by "mere private endorsement," I made no "mere private endorsements" on papers for the allowance of credits, and if I had done so, my subordinates would not have been justified in regarding them. The "Marine Corps list" came to the War Department with an official letter dated October 7, 1864, from Major Nicholson, inspector of the Marine Corps, a proper officer to give the facts in relation to these men. He desired that they should be credited to the localities "set opposite their names." The list was forwarded to Major Littler, with directions to credit, "provided they have not been heretofore credited."

Of the "Cochrane list" I know nothing, having no recollection of any such list or transaction as that set forth; and I am informed that the records of my office furnish no information on the subject. I never knowingly ordered a credit in blank; and if there is a genuine signature of mine on the list described by the commissioners as the Cochrane list, it was obtained through some misrepresentation, misunderstanding, or fraud; but until I see the list, and can determine as to the genuineness of it, and of my signature, I shall certainly think there is forgery in it. The commissioners, it seems, have seen none of these "mere private endorsements," but assert their existence, on "verbal testimony." They say, "we have only verbal testimony of the special orders to credit the names borne on the Marine Corps lists offered by Pike, Colby, and Cochrane." They do not say in terms, that these mere private endorsements were mine, but I infer from the context that they mean it.

But in determining the responsibility for credits and their consequences, which the commissioners place entirely on my shoulders there are some other points to be borne in mind. The State and town authorities, sought and accepted these credits, and knowingly paid bounties for them. The General Government could neither exact nor regulate these payments. All it could do in this regard, it did do—that is, set the example of paying bounties for, and to actual recruits only. It is a significant fact, that there were few or no frauds in the matter of government bounties. It was clearly the duty of the towns to see that their bounties were honestly and properly disbursed. It was my duty to see that men were obtained for the service. How well the former was performed, is indicated by the report of these commissioners; how well the latter, may be inferred from the fact that the Army was languishing for recruits when I entered on the duties of Provost-Marshal-General in 1863 and that, notwithstanding all its casualties, it contained more than a million of men when the war closed in 1865.

It looks like very sharp practice, to say the least of it, for the authorities in Maine to have sought and accepted paper credits, and to have openly and voluntarily paid large sums of money to bounties for their part in preparing them, and then long after the war, when the people are smarting under the pecuniary consequences of their own folly, for another class of authorities to come out and condemn the General Government as culpable, and as the cause of the burdens which they inflicted upon themselves.

Though I had no power to regulate local bounties or forestall frauds in them, I was, when the war closed, actively engaged in the prosecution of persons perpetrating these frauds. Some thirty or forty of the worst cases were under arrest by my bureau; about twenty of which had been regularly tried by United States authority, convicted, and sentenced to fine and imprisonment. One of these, G. M. Delaney, a witness before these commissioners, was found guilty—among other things, of defrauding recruits of money voted by the towns and cities of Maine—and was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, and a fine of \$45,000. I, at Washington, was comparatively withdrawn from these fraudulent practices carried on in the States, under the very eyes of the State and town officers, and, as I understand the law, within their jurisdiction. Yet I recall no arrests or punishments for these crimes in the State of Maine or elsewhere, except those by my bureau.

The disagreeable and unpopular duty of drafting men into the ranks of the Army, after volunteering had become inadequate, was put upon me without agency or solicitation on my part, and at the sacrifice of more desirable employment in other fields of service. I know that I discharged it faithfully, industriously, honestly, to the satisfaction of my superior officers, and with the cordial concurrence, so far as I know, of Governor Colburn and Governor Cony, the two executives of Maine with whom I had official intercourse. Yet when this duty was ended by the termination of the war, my services were, by many, measured rather by the extent of their annoyance to individuals, than by their importance to the nation. I have not complained of this, but have looked patiently and confidently to time for justice; and I shall continue so to look, notwithstanding the wrong done me so unexpectedly by these commissioners in Maine. And I shall even hope for justice from them when this explanation reaches them—an explanation that never would have been necessary, had they given me an opportunity to appear before them. This I should gladly have done, not merely in defense of my official course, but to aid them in detecting, and if possible, punishing the perpetrators of these frauds in their State which I labored assiduously to prevent.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE SOCIAL STANDARD FOR OFFICERS.—Of course it would be pure snobbery for us to say that officers of the National Guard should be selected from what Jenkins calls “the upper class.” There is no distinct upper class in this country in the sense of Jenkins. Some people are better than others, and some richer, and some more cultivated; but there is no real class distinction, for the poor get richer, and the rich fall precipitately among the poor, and the coarser often become wonderfully refined in a generation or two, while you are not always sure of the continuance of refinement when wealth and the opportunities it gives for culture have passed away, as they do in so very many cases in this country. So the surface of our society is always changing, and the philosophical observer don’t find it so easy to discover “the upper class” or “the first people” whose doings the facile pen of Jenkins so delights to record. But there are such things as social influence and social position, and they are well worth consideration by the National Guard, when it sets itself to the work of selecting its officers. What are the requisites to be sought for in an officer, especially in a New York city organization? We should say military competency, power with men, good moral and social standing, and pecuniary means enough to be beyond anxiety on account of the expenses of the position. Without the first an officer can of course never succeed, although he may acquire the respect which the three last qualifications pretty assuredly bring. With the first, and little of the others, his position is perhaps questionable; but without any of these, his situation becomes actually deplorable, and his immediate resignation is a thing to be advised as beneficial to the service and saving of his own comfort and self-respect. Many men of superior military and moral qualifications are often deterred from accepting the position of an officer in the State service simply from the lack of pecuniary means. Besides the mere expense of an outfit, etc., there are certain other responsibilities which a thoughtful man stops to consider before accepting an official position. There is the initiation fee to gain entrance into the Board of Officers, and the necessary and consequent dues; the helping hand in the “deficiency” fund of company and regiment on all occasions (for it is always expected that the officers will make up these little or great amounts); and numerous other expenditures which naturally fall upon the officers, and must be met if the respect of subordinates and comrades is to be retained. These expenses, we are free to say, are often too great, for officers are frequently called on to bear more than they ought in reason to be asked for. It is a fact moreover that in some of the very best regiments of the First division, and in one in particular, less money is required to be spent by an officer than in commands less conspicuous and of relatively lower standing. On the other hand, we know of regiments in the same and other divisions, which cannot be called exactly first-class, which call on both officers and men for an expenditure in various ways—for festive entertainments and what not—far above the demands of their more brilliant and successful rival organizations. There are officers enjoying the privileges of the Board of Officers, who are debtors to the board to a greater or less extent. To so remain must occasion great uneasiness to the delinquent officer, or he is a person unfit to hold an officer’s place in the National Guard. We know of many important and irregular transactions, to put it mildly, among officers of the State service, which would never bear a close or public scrutiny; still these officers continue to hold positions of prominence and trust. An officer of the National Guard assumes a much greater responsibility than many of those who accept such a position ever dream of. Unless the exact duties and requirements of the place are understood, and there is some guarantee of their faithful and honest performance, the candidate for a commission should be requested to step aside; and if he doesn’t take a polite hint, then let him be more rudely set aside to make way for a better man. To protect the interests of the service, no better means could be employed than a general elevation of the standard of the officers by a judicious selection of gentlemen who shall by their capacity and moral influence give tone and character to the commands in which they exercise authority.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN THE YARD CASE.—The motion to vacate the order of arrest in the suit for false imprisonment of Benjamin H. Yard against Major Eunson, General Ward, and Marshal Leubuscher, came on for argument on Wednesday last, before his Honor Mr. Justice Cardozo. The assistant attorney-general came down from Albany on Monday for the purpose of taking part in the argument, but could remain no longer than Tuesday. Mr. Sewell, therefore, who had been retained by the State as counsel to the defendants, was forced to proceed with the argument in support of the motion, unassisted. A. J. Vanderpoel, Esq., appeared to oppose the motion. After the substance of the affidavits, now well known to the public, had been stated by the respective counsel, Mr. Sewell, to maintain the motion, argued substantially:

That the plaintiff was lawfully enlisted in the Seventy-first regiment N. G. S. N. Y., and therefore bound to obey the orders of the officers appointed over him, and that he was within the jurisdiction of the Military Code.

That the plaintiff was absent from drills and parades, in

disobedience of orders duly issued, and failed to pay his dues, whereby he became liable to be court-martialled.

That the court-martial was properly convened, and all its proceedings regular.

That all of the acts of the defendants, and each of them complained of by the plaintiff, and which resulted in his imprisonment, were done in their official capacities, and in pursuance of the provisions of the Military Code; and as the defendants did not exceed their authority, they are not answerable in damages for their proceedings, and no action for false imprisonment can be maintained.

That the court wherein the plaintiff was tried and convicted had its origin from the same source as the court now represented by his Honor; and in respect to military persons within its jurisdiction, its judicial determinations were as binding and as fully protected and authorized by the law of the land, as proceedings in the Supreme Court over persons or matters within its jurisdiction.

Mr. Vanderpoel, in opposition, admitted the signing by the plaintiff of the enlistment paper set forth in the moving affidavit, and claimed that such act did not make him a member of the Seventy-first regiment; that no company nor regiment was anywhere mentioned in the enlistment paper; that the plaintiff never appeared at any parade or drill of the Seventy-first regiment; that the plaintiff appeared before the court-martial only for the purpose of informing Major Eunson that there was some mistake, for he certainly was not a member of the Seventy-first regiment; that for aught that appeared in any of the papers, the Twelfth, Sixty-ninth, or any other regiment of the National Guard, had as good a right to court-martial and imprison Mr. Yard, as had the Seventy-first; that the court-martial had no jurisdiction over him, because he was never a member of the Seventy-first regiment.

Mr. Vanderpoel further argued that the validity of the warrant under which Mr. Yard was imprisoned was passed upon by Judge Jones on the return of the *habeas corpus*, and by him decided to be void, whereupon the plaintiff was discharged; that the present Military Code became a law March 17, 1870, and the old Military Code was then repealed without making any provision for the punishment of offences committed prior to March 17, 1870; that some of the offences for which plaintiff was fined by the court martial occurred before the present Military Code went into effect; that the plaintiff had been fined for not attending drills as well as parades, when the Military Code authorized fines for non-attendance at parades only.

Justice Cardozo took the papers and reserved his decision. We have not time nor space in this issue for any extended comments, but with the National Guard await the decision in this important trial, which, if decided against the State, will tend to weaken all future authority of courts-martial, and the laws governing the militia.

FIRST DIVISION PARADE GROUND.—At last the movement so frequently urged by us in regard to a parade ground for the First division has been made, and on Thursday last, by special invitation of Major-General Shaler, a numerous delegation of the officers of this division visited Albany for the purpose of urging upon the Legislature the necessity of an immediate passage of the bill for these grounds, introduced some time since by Senator Creager. This bill does not provide for any special location for the parade grounds, only that they shall be above or north of Fifty-ninth street, and in fact there is yet a possibility that they may be included in the limits of the Central Park; still we are rather inclined to doubt this, as the proposition comes almost too late for the proper carrying out of the project. We cannot in this issue give any details of the visit of the delegation, which we trust will be successful. The grounds will be under the control of the Department of Public Works, the First division commander being an advisory member thereof until the parade grounds are definitely located.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—The annual ball of Company F, Captain S. V. Healy, held at the new regimental armory, Broadway and Thirty-fourth street, on the evening of the 1st inst., was one of the most enjoyable and elegant in its general appointments ever given by this excellent command. The spacious drill-room was tastily decorated, yet not marred by a too great profusion; and this, with the general elegance of its fixed adornments and the superb toilets of the ladies, gave everything a happy and enticing appearance. These, with the unusually courteous attentions on the part of the officers and members, made the ball attractive to guests, who even at its termination were loath to leave. Early in the evening a large delegation, composed of the members of Company I, Thirteenth Infantry, made its appearance at the festive scene, having chartered a four-horse stage as a conveyance from Brooklyn. These members were especially invited, and received every attention on the part of Company F. The ball closed at an hour long past midnight, and the following named gentlemen deserve commendation for its successful management throughout: Reception Committee—Captain S. V. Healy, Sergeant J. Burkhardt, Corporal R. Prentiss, Veteran J. O’owney, Veteran J. Downey. Floor Committee—Lieutenant Charles S. Burns, Sergeant E. H. Healy, Corporal C. Owens, Corporal J. Macauley, Veteran J. Schreyer, Veteran Thomas Houston, T. McKinney, S. Dayton. Police Committee—Sergeant C. P. Smith, Sergeant W. D. Evans, Corporal M. Gordon, J. J. Robson, M. Clear, F. Keller, G. A. Davis, J. Palmer.

THE CALICO SOCIABLE of Company I, Twelfth Infantry, “National Greys,” took place at Irving Hall on Wednesday evening last. Though nature wore her angriest frown, and the cold drizzle that saturated the wayfarer was most depressing, and suggestive of a warm fireside, yet the gay company at Irving Hall were as fresh in their toilets and as unruffled in spirits as if the elements had worn their kindest smile. A numerous company was present when the dancing commenced at half-past nine, the gentlemen in uniform or evening dress, the ladies in every conceivable toilet that woman’s ingenuity could fashion from bright calicoes, cambrics, and muslins; and the effect of the cheap but tasteful dresses, as seen from the gallery, where their texture could not be recognized, was really brilliant and imposing. The music was worthy of Grafulla and his happy band. Everybody had a delightful evening; and we cordially express our admiration of the executive ability of the gentlemen who arranged and carried out the programme. One novel feature of the ball was the distribution of perfumed handkerchiefs with the order of dancing printed upon them.

NINTH INFANTRY.—This command for some time past has been much like those peripatetic families who at a certain season of the year insist on changing their household goods and chattels from one house to another. During this period of change chaos naturally rules, and the members of the household feel decidedly unpleasant during the transition. Some time since grand alterations were commenced in the armory of this command—in fact, it was enlarged to the full extent of another building, and other improvements started, with every probability of the speedy completion of one of the most spacious armories in this vicinity. For some time past, however, all work has stopped on the building, and the members have been compelled to locate themselves within a partially finished structure, and to suffer the unpleasant results thereof. This, we learn authoritatively, is to be immediately remedied, and work will be commenced soon, and the armory of the glorious Ninth completed with all despatch, so as to be ready for general drill purposes when the season is over. A regiment of the material of the Ninth could scarcely exist without a varying series of sensations. The last is the public announcement of its proposed trip to Boston in June next. There was a proposition of a similar character made last season, and publicly announced in all the papers, but for reasons unknown to us the regiment never undertook the trip, but instead, late in the season, encamped out of the State. Nevertheless, we wish the present project all success. The following from a Boston contemporary would seem to indicate that the trip is really to occur:

Early last fall it was stated that the Ninth New York regiment, Colonel James Fisk, Jr., had voted to visit Boston, and the report was so far credited that the plan of reception was discussed. However, as weeks went on and the regiment did not make its appearance, it was almost decided by military officials in this vicinity that the contemplated excursion had been abandoned. Yesterday morning a committee of the Ninth, consisting of Captain G. A. Fuller and Surgeon C. A. Pollard, arrived here in company with the commander himself for the purpose of arranging the plans for the excursion with some of our military gentlemen. The committee was received at Young’s hotel by several of the officers of the First regiment M. V. M., Colonel Johnston, and the whole matter was thoroughly discussed. The regiment will probably leave New York on Friday evening, June 14, by a special boat, reaching this city at an early hour the next morning. It will be accompanied by its band of 100 pieces, and a full drum corps. Gilmore’s band and the regimental drum corps will receive the Ninth and escort them to some hotel for breakfast. After a short rest the line will be reformed and will move to Charlestown, to take part in the celebration of the 17th. In the afternoon a dress parade will take place on the Common, and in the evening from 8 to 12 o’clock a levee is to be given in Music Hall, with music by both the above mentioned bands. The visitors will leave for home in a special boat on Sunday, another dress parade being given previous to their departure. The entire arrangements have not been completed as yet, but the above is the programme as far as arranged.

ELEVENTH INFANTRY.—While many of the regiments of the First division are luxuriating in new and more convenient armories, the gallant old Washington Rifles have at last, like the old horse, been turned out of their old home or armory, the building having been deemed by the proper authorities as unsafe for drill purposes. General orders issued by the regimental commander, Colonel Funk, announces this fact as follows: “The building now occupied by the Eleventh regiment as an armory and drill-room having been condemned by a committee appointed by the Superintendent of Buildings as unsafe, it is hereby ordered that all drills cease in said building until further orders.” The several companies of this command are directed to assemble at the State Arsenal, corner of Seventh avenue and Thirty-fifth street, for wing drills, in fatigue dress, gray trousers, white gloves, and with side arms only—right wing, April 5 and 14; left wing, April 6 and 17. Line will be formed at 7:45 p. m. Quartermaster-Sergeant Henry L. Schaffner has been appointed sergeant-major, vice H. Sussmann, returned to his company, and Private Fred. Wohr of Company E, quartermaster-sergeant, vice Henry L. Schaffner, promoted.

THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—This regiment, Colonel Roehr, mustered in its eighth company (H) on the 24th ult., and is now equal in strength to any regiment of the Eastern District of Brooklyn. Captain Livingston, of the Eleventh brigade staff, acted as mustering officer, and the company bids fair to equal any of its competitors in the Thirty-second. Colonel Roehr, the energetic commandant of the regiment, into which

the battalion has now grown, deserves not a little praise for the measures displayed in increasing his command, as it has thus far excelled all others in the Second division. Brevet Captain Karcher, the adjutant of this command, is well up in his duties, and, like the colonel, manifests great interest in the general welfare of the regiment.

FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This regiment is directed to assemble at the armory for drill and instruction as follows: March 22, in fatigue uniform; April 5, in dress uniform. Roll call of companies at 8 o'clock P. M. The right and left wings of the regiment will be drilled in competition on the 5th of April. Members not provided with dress uniforms will see the importance of procuring their outfits at an early date. The drill of the 22d of March will be preparatory to the competition drill of the 5th of April. A more prompt attention to the service of notices or orders and the return of squad warrants is ordered. Should a non-commissioned officer be deprived of his warrant, it will be the penalty of non-observance of this section, to which attention has been repeatedly called.

The following changes are announced in the regiment: Resignations—Wm. H. Heathcote, captain Company F; Edwin H. Johnson, first lieutenant Company D; N. Wilson Leighton, surgeon; J. Hyatt Smith, chaplain; Orin Cross, hospital steward. Appointments—Assistant Surgeon E. N. Pendleton to be surgeon, vice Leighton, resigned; William Howell Taylor to be chaplain, vice Smith, resigned; Right General Guide A. J. Reeve to be hospital steward, vice Cross, resigned; Left General Guide Wm. H. Hubbell to be right general guide, vice Reeve, promoted; John J. Davies of Company I to be left general guide, vice Hubbell promoted. W. R. Thomas has been expelled from Company B, which action is approved by Colonel David E. Austin.

FIFTH INFANTRY.—This regiment is ordered to assemble (by wing) at the State Arsenal, corner of Thirty-fifth street and Seventh avenue, in fatigue dress, as follows: Right wing, comprising Companies F, D, K, I, and E, on the 23d inst.; left wing, comprising Companies B, A, H, C, and G, on the 24th inst. Line will be formed at 8 o'clock P. M. precisely, on each occasion. Captain Zimmer of Company I will detail one corporal and two privates on the 23d inst., and Captain Krumweide of Company C will make a like detail on the 24th inst.

SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This regiment is ordered to assemble for battalion drill, in fatigue dress, white belts, as follows: Right wing, Companies H, A, D, G, and C, March 17 and 29; left wing, Companies I, B, F, K, and E, March 23 and April 3. Assembly at 8 P. M. Private Gordon Burchard having been expelled by Company A the action of said company is confirmed by Colonel Clark. The following-named non-commissioned officers have passed the board of examination, and have received warrants as non-commissioned officers in this regiment: First Sergeant Francis W. Bacon; Sergeants William Broadhurst, Jr., C. L. Cozzens, and Henry S. Steele; Corporals Horace Bacon, Granville F. Dailey, Charles R. Hone, George A. Jones, Frank A. Mackenzie, John Morrow, and H. C. Nathan.

FIFTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.—This Franco-Prussian organization of the National Guard on the 13th instant proposes giving a grand reception to its friends, at Irving Hall. Any one who has once attended these regimental receptions is always anxious to again obtain cards of invitation, as the Garde Lafayette and its gallant commandant Colonel Allen are noted for hospitality and generous attentions. Then, again, the Garde parade many handsome women and pretty vivandieres on the annual occasion. The cards of invitation are remarkable for their general neatness and beauty.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—Company E, Forty-seventh Infantry, on the 15th inst. will give its "ninth season" promenade concert at the regimental armory, corner of Fourth and North Second streets, Williamsburgh. This is about the only company in the "Burg" that pretends to give what are termed *recherche* entertainments....The Allison-Kipp-Seventh-regiment-Shandley-Legion quarrel is now settled, we trust, beyond the power of resurrection. The story briefly is as follows: Captain Allison became personal in his remarks before the board of officers relative to the "Shandley" parade. Captain Kipp, a participant in said parade, after a too long consideration, prefers charges and specifications, but not of a proper or convicting character, therefore the brigade commander refuses to order an arrest. Captain Kipp thereupon appeals to division headquarters, for which we see no authority, as a court had not been ordered. The major-general endorses the brigade commander, and forwards the papers to general headquarters, where the first endorsements are approved, and so the matter ends for the present, unless our unrelenting friend Kipp pushes it still further, and takes it into the civil court, as we learn he proposes.....On Monday evening last First Sergeant Truman V. Tuttle was elected Captain of Company F, Forty-seventh regiment, vice William H. Heathcote, resigned. This, perhaps, is an unusual leap for a sergeant, but it nevertheless was the apparent desire of the entire company and a well-deserved promotion of an old and faithful member of the regiment. Captain Tuttle was one of the best and most efficient first sergeants in the regiments, and this alone should give him the confidence of the company as its captain, which undoubtedly he has secured. After the election, Major Rogers, who presided, made the new officer a handsome gift in the shape of an elegant pair

of epaulettes.....The "surprise" en masse of the lady friends of Troops F and G, Third Cavalry, on Tuesday evening last, was undoubtedly one of the most joyful and merry affairs of its kind that have ever occurred among the troopers. The costumes were grotesque, but tasteful; and the order of dancing was spiced with German and English funny and familiar phrases.....Company I, Fifth Infantry, Captain John Zimmer, and its numerous friends, had a happy time at the Casino on Wednesday evening last, the event being the tenth annual ball of the company. Jupiter Pluvius had little effect in preventing a large attendance; and the whole affair was a happy success.....The Twenty-third Infantry drill by battalion at the State arsenal, Brooklyn, on the evenings of the 14th and 21st inst.....Company K, Ninth, presents its commander, Captain Spencer, with a sword and appurtenances at Apollo Hall this (Saturday) evening.....Company K, Seventy-first, gave its grand and *recherche* reception at the regimental armory on Thursday evening last.

OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS.

ALBANY.—The *Sunday Morning Press* not only continues to criticize the regiments of Albany, but recently called us to account. In our extract of a report of the drill of the Tenth (10th) Infantry taken from that paper lately, by a typographical error it was announced as a drill of the Fourth (4th) Infantry. The other very grave error was an announcement of the Burgess Corps instead of the *Burgesses* Corps. It appears that the Albany *Press* and *Times* and their correspondents of Albany are exercised regarding a certain statement in the latter paper in relation to what constitutes the fatigue uniform of a soldier, the *Times* contending that white gloves are an essential portion of it, and that a soldier without them cannot be said to be in fatigue. As the *Times* has appealed to us, by referring to our columns for general orders directing white gloves to be worn, it is perhaps well for us to say that white gloves are only ordered to be worn on dress or occasion of ceremony, and can be worn with the fatigue as well as with the full dress uniform, if they are so ordered, and the occasion requires them; but by no manner of means do they constitute an essential portion of the fatigue uniform; and as for ordinary drills, they are never required, for men handle their muskets better without them. The same should hold good in relation to the wearing of sashes by officers when in fatigue uniform, and performing the duties appertaining thereto.

We take from the *Press* an account of a drill of the Twenty-third Infantry held at Albany:

Colonel Andes caused a few movements to be executed, after which the battalion was turned over to the major by the adjutant. The battalion was composed of five commands, about nine files each; the first company single rank. While executing the manual all the officers kept their swords at a carry when parade rest was ordered. Fixing bayonets, both hands were used to draw the bayonet. Charging bayonets, the rear rank of the second company came to arms port twice. The major explained the difference between parade rest and rest, and ordered parade rest a number of times, and held them in the position for a few moments. Some few files were steady, the majority not. A number were not in proper position; one man in the second company and one in the fifth were so inattentive that the major ordered them out of the line. Wheeling into line of battle from columns of companies is not a successive formation; but all the captains, except the captain of the third company, supported arms after completing the movement.

Marching in line of battle, some captains went to the right or then to the left of their companies; we could not tell whether a right wing was supposed to be present or that the battalion was complete. When two captains occupy one interval, the junior should take his place in the rear rank, instead of both remaining in the front rank. At the commencement of the drill all the guides inverted their pieces in all formations. In all the alignments the companies were halted so near the line or a little over it, that the files were obliged to dress back instead of forward.

At the conclusion of the drill, the usual pounding of the floor with the butts of the pieces was noticeable. The drill was an improvement upon all former ones we have attended. The movements were made without confusion, and the men were steadier than heretofore, and the attention was good. The major is a good drill-master, understands the movements, gives his orders plainly, explains the movements clearly without tautology, and is cool and collected.

RHODE ISLAND.—From the annual report of Quartermaster-General Flagg of this State we make a brief extract of the interesting report of the inspection of Providence's most prominent commands, which are perhaps better known in New York than those of any other portion of Rhode Island's militia:

First Light Infantry.—There were present ninety-six men, rank and file, forming a battalion of four companies, also seven drummers (being the drum corps of the cadet company), the whole under the command of Captain Charles R. Dennis. An inspection of the arms (the only property the infantry have belonging to the State, except eighty cap pouches and 24 pair shoulder scales), and their equipments proved them to be in a highly satisfactory condition, better even than when delivered to them from the department. A very pleasant and profitable evening was spent in witnessing the evolutions of the battalion, and well-merited praise was bestowed by the visiting officials.

United Train of Artillery, Colonel Harry Allen.—This organization was formerly known as the Burnside Zouaves. While under the command of Colonel Charles D. Jillson it arrived at a state of enviable proficiency, and secured a uniform not excelled in beauty by that of any other military company in the United States. When Colonel Jillson was called from the city to accept a position in New York, the company found a most competent successor in the person of Colonel Allen, who had rendered able service to his country in the late rebellion, and was well qualified for the command of

such a fine organization. The armory of the company has been thoroughly repaired during the past year, but its location and narrow limits render it unsuitable, for so large a number of men to drill in. The organization will endeavor to supply themselves at an early date with a hall better suited to their tastes and purposes. There were present for inspection seventy-two, rank and file. The arms and equipments were in such a condition as the character of the command would lead one to suppose they would be—good.

An "AMERICAN GUARD" RECRUIT.—Colonel Harry Allen, well known in New York and Providence as a good officer, a whole-souled, generous friend of New York's military gentlemen, and commandant of the "United Train of Artillery," gained his first military experience in the ranks of the Seventy-first regiment of New York. The following sketch of his service, published originally in the "History of Connecticut in the War," and republished in the report of the Quartermaster-General of Rhode Island, will be found interesting to many of our readers:

Colonel Allen enlisted as a private in Company B, Seventy-first regiment New York State Militia, on the 20th of April, 1861, and served in the first three months' campaign, participating in the battle of Bull Run with Burnside's brigade, receiving his discharge on the 26th of July.

On the 28th of August, 1862, he re-entered the service as first lieutenant in Company F, Seventeenth regiment Connecticut Volunteers, and was promoted to captain on the 13th day of April, 1863, in which capacity he served in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, receiving in the latter a wound which incapacitated him from duty for thirty days.

He rejoined his regiment on Morris Island, South Carolina, where it had been sent with other troops from the Army of the Potomac to reinforce General Gilmore. Upon the evacuation of the Island by the Confederates, and after arduous duties in the trenches, his regiment was removed to Folly Island, South Carolina, and engaged in several attacks upon the enemy's batteries on John's and James' Islands.

When Gilmore's expedition under General Seymour started for Florida, the Seventeenth was ordered to join them, and after defeat at Olustee it remained as part of the garrison at Jacksonville. On the 24th of February, 1864, Captain Allen received his commission as major, and soon after was ordered with his command to St. Augustine, Florida, to relieve the garrison at that post. While stationed there, detachments of the regiment were engaged in raids into the interior of the State, and it was while returning from an expedition up the St. John's river that the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment was killed, making the third officer in that rank they had lost in battle. Governor Buckingham immediately forwarded to Major Allen his commission as lieutenant-colonel, and he was placed in command of the post of St. Augustine and the force east of St. John's river. The colonel of the regiment having been made prisoner by the enemy some three months previous, the command of the regiment from that date until it was mustered out of the service devolved upon Colonel Allen; and the commendatory letters that he received from his superior officer furnish testimony that he faithfully discharged his duties. At the close of the war, while en route north, Colonel Allen was ordered before board of examination at Jacksonville, and by them recommended for a position in the Regular Army, which he declined. Colonel Allen is mentioned in high terms, and Governor Buckingham in speaking of him says: "Your military record reflects credit on yourself and the State."

THE BONDHOLDERS.—This is the significant designation of an association in the city of Providence, composed mainly of wealthy gentlemen, many of whom are or have been in the military service of the State and country. A well-known and recently resigned staff officer of the New York Twenty-second frequently visits Providence, and some time since was elected an honorary member of this organization, which exhibits among its other good traits a laudable interest in the cause of temperance, for which also the above-mentioned ex-officer is also a strong advocate. We clip the following paragraph from the *Providence Press*, which we think needs no further special comment on our part to make it clear:

A New Yorker, well known as an honorary member of the B. H.'s, has signified his acceptance of an invitation to come to Providence and deliver six temperance lectures, in connection with General Daniel Pratt, the great American traveller. The New Yorker would make a good illustration.

MASSACHUSETTS—Boston.—The First brigade M. V. M. will give a grand military and civic ball at Music Hall, Boston, on the evening of the 16th instant. Brigadier-General I. S. Burrill is commandant of the brigade; and the ball is given under the auspices of the officers of the brigade. We remember some time since reading a published protest against this ball in a Boston journal, which, to say the least, was rather remarkable in its character. We observe, however, that some of the names which were attached to that protest are now among those of the reception committee of the ball; so we infer that everything has been amicably arranged. This proposition of a brigade ball is original, as is likewise the idea of including the costs of refreshments in the price of the tickets, as the circular reads, "Tickets \$5, refreshments included." Here is a plan that is seldom practised by our New York ball-givers, and worthy of general adoption.

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THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

THIS, according to an article in the *Financial Chronicle* from which we quote, consists of:

1. Prussia, as it was before 1866, already one of the great powers of Europe, but inferior in resources and strength to Russia, Austria, and France.

2. The territories added to Prussia at the time of the Austrian war in 1866, including the kingdom of Hanover, nearly all the electorate of Hesse and the grand duchy of Nassau, the free city of Frankfort-on-the-Main, the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, and certain districts of Bavaria and of the grand duchy of Hesse.

3. The twenty-one States besides Prussia which joined in the "North German Bund" of 1867 under the military leadership of Prussia, including Saxony, Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Weimar, all the Saxon principalities, the free cities of Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck, and nearly half of the grand duchy of Hesse.

4. The South German States, which have united with the late North German Bund in establishing the new empire, in consequence of the French war of 1870. These are Bavaria, Württemberg, Baden, the southern half of the grand duchy of Hesse, and the little principality of Lichtenstein.

These four classes make up the new German empire, which thus includes the whole of the territory occupied by the German race in Europe, except the German part of the Austro-Hungarian empire. This exception is less important than is generally supposed. Less than one-fourth of the subjects of Austria are of German stock—not quite nine millions of them, according to the census of 1869—and the strictly German provinces of the empire cover an area of but 22,500 English square miles, or little more than one-ninth of Germany. They are, however, the nucleus of Francis Joseph's empire, and could not be severed from it without dissolving the whole. Their future is a problem of the deepest interest. A large "German party" among the people look forward steadily to a union with the rest of their race, regardless of the fate of the Hapsburg monarchy; while all the statesmanship of the Vienna court is diligent in the effort to consolidate the new constitutional empire of Austria by permanently incorporating its German subjects with those of Eastern races. For the present, the contest is one of domestic policy only, and we shall not include them in this discussion.

A secret treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive, was three years ago concluded between Prussia and the South German States, and 1870 found them ready to carry it out. In doing so they became irrevocably bound together with North Germany, and they have now joined together in re-establishing the empire. The extent of these States is as follows:

	Square miles, area.	Population.
Bavaria.....	29,330	4,824,421
Württemberg.....	7,528	1,778,396
Baden.....	6,900	1,434,970
Southern Hesse.....	1,689	564,475
Lichtenstein.....	62	7,994
	44,518	8,610,256

or a territory almost equal to the State of New York, and a population twice as large. Thus the German empire, as now constituted, possesses a country about equal in extent to New England and the Middle States to the Potomac, including Ohio, and a population which amounted in 1867 to 38,767,142, and is now about 40,300,000, or at least 1,500,000 more than the present population of France, which, according to the best estimates, is almost exactly the same as that of the United States by the census of 1870, 4,000,000 more than the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, and is exceeded in number by the subjects of no single government in Europe except the Emperor of Russia.

The statistics of population will enable us to understand the actual strength and position of the new empire in the family of nations only when regarded in connection with other elements of power. Thus, in numbers, as well as in extent and fertility of territory, there is still little to choose between Germany and France. Alsace and Lorraine contain together 12,520 square miles of territory, and had in 1866, 2,720,450 inhabitants; so that, if they were transferred to the new empire, Germany will contain 44,000,000, and France not quite 36,000,000 of inhabitants; a disproportion, however, still far less, in this respect, than has often existed between nations equally matched in the field. And when the wealth, trade, and industrial resources of the two countries are compared, it will be seen that the disproportion in population would be greatly qualified by these, and the two countries might fairly stand as rivals in influence and power, were it not for the one great peculiarity of Germany, the Prussian military system.

We have no means of forming even an approximate estimate of the actual wealth and productiveness of the two nations, and have to rely upon general statements. But these leave no doubt whatever that France is the richest country on the continent of Europe, both in the aggregate and in proportion to its numbers. The budgets of the governments are not a final proof of this, yet they are a strong confirmation of it; and when we find that the total revenues of the French empire for a series of years before the war averaged \$330,000,000 per year, while the aggregate revenues of all the German governments for the same years were, upon the average, but two-thirds as much, or \$217,000,000, we have one test of the comparative financial resources of the two. In railroad mileage they are almost exactly equal, each country having nine thousand miles in operation in 1867; but the French railroads were more costly in construction, better equipped, and did a larger business; while they were constructed wholly by French capital, which also contributed largely to many of the German lines. The aggregate receipts of the French railways in 1866 were \$120,070,000; those of the German lines in 1864, \$75,900,000. In 1866 the telegraph lines of France exceeded in length of wire those of the States in the present German empire by more than sixty per cent, the official returns giving the two nations, respectively, 61,700 and 37,000 English miles of wires. In 1865 the post-offices of France distributed

275,285,920 newspapers; those of all Germany, including Austria, 212,458,399. The number of letters posted in France was, in 1865, 213,506,797; within the present empire of Germany, 301,005,712. The merchant tonnage of the two nations upon the sea was in 1866 almost the same, but the steam tonnage of France was 108,328, and that of Germany but 53,881. In 1865 the aggregate trade of France, including the whole of the exports and imports, was estimated at \$1,522,000,000; that of the entire German Zollverein, including all the States of the present empire, has never reached much more than half this sum.

These facts all point in the same direction, and together they show convincingly that France is a richer land than Germany; enough richer to compensate, in a great measure, for the difference in population, in an equal struggle between their resources for leadership in Europe. But the German empire, with Prussia for its centre, is essentially a military society. Every man is a soldier; and a larger percentage of trained men can be at once called to arms than in any other country. France will not submit to such an organization; and without it she necessarily falls, under any form of government, to the second place; and Germany is the foremost of the great powers. It is for this reason, above all, that European statesmen in general are inclined to believe that for a long time to come the new nation just building will be aspotential in the affairs of Europe as France has ever been in the zenith of her strength. But the continuance of her power, and whether it will, on the whole, be a benefit to herself and to the world, depend upon other considerations than its nature and sources—upon the use she will make of it; and this cannot now be foreseen. The spirit and purposes of the Hohenzollerns are not the most hopeful feature of the new empire. They are narrow, borrowed from the traditions of an absolutism characterized by a genius that is only military, and by an ambition that is unscrupulous. But Germany is a nation that cannot be moulded, we may hope, by any such influences; and the people may be willing to use the Prussian monarchy in order to work out their own unity, and yet unwilling to be enslaved. There is reason to believe that the unity of Germany is the accomplishment of great historical tendencies, and is henceforth an accomplished and permanent fact, while the empire and its military system are the creatures of an ambition and a will which are the accidents of to-day. If this prove to be true, Germany may yet outgrow the guidance and control of the men who, for their own lower purposes, have led the way to her union; may renew herself in social and political freedom as well as in strength; and may yet take her place as the vanguard of Europe, in the way to the general happiness of the people, and to a higher civilization, instead of becoming a terror to the nations around her and the vain and reckless instrument of a monarchy that seeks aggrandizement and glory.

THE MANOEUVRES OF THE PRUSSIAN ARMY.

(From the London Broad Arrow.)

COLONEL BRAY. First battalion Fourth (King's Own) regiment, delivered a highly interesting and instructive lecture to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the different regiments at Aldershot on Wednesday evening, in the Prince Consort's Library, the subject being, "The Prussian regulations for conducting great manoeuvres, and the manner in which a staff of umpires is used for conducting and controlling such manoeuvres." There were about 200 officers present, including Lieutenant-General Sir James Hope Grant, G. C. B., and the officers of the divisional. Colonel Bray said that, in company with Sir Charles Staveley and other officers, he visited Berlin in the year 1868. They were struck with admiration at the Prussian military system, at the way in which the Prussian officers were instructed and the practical way all their duties were carried out: their military manoeuvres had wonderful similarity to war itself, and the officers, from the highest to the lowest grade, are practised and trained in the highest branches of their profession, and this training is not confined to one particular arm of the service, for a Prussian officer is capable of handling artillery, cavalry, and infantry combined. General Trochu says that the exercise of the French troops, in time of peace, gave them no proper conception of real warfare. He (Colonel Bray) looked in a dictionary a few days since for the word "Officer," and found that it is defined as a commander and leader of men; therefore they ought to be instructed so as to make them commanders and leaders of men. (Applause) In time of peace the greater part of the English officer's time is taken up with regimental duties, etc. There are many things in the Prussian system that he would like to see introduced into the British army. The mode of training its officers was worth following. There was no use in blinking matters—we must march with the age (applause) and modify our system of drill and manoeuvres. In 1868 he saw 20,000 Prussian troops drawn up in review order for the King on a sandy plain, about three miles from Berlin. Several other officers were with him. All branches of the Prussian army were represented at the review. They were most favorably impressed with the martial bearing of the Prussian guards, and amazed at seeing such fine soldiers after three years' training; they are not so well set up as the British and French soldiers, but their officers and sergeants are fine intelligent men. Among the officers you will not see any weak or slender, as you may sometimes see in the English army. On the day succeeding that of the review, all Berlin seemed to be on the move, and it was very apparent that something important was impending. The cause was the departure of the troops across the country, as if proceeding on an actual campaign, with every requisite for a week's earnest war. Every officer is furnished with a large map of the surrounding country. These maps are printed at the expense of the government. Every officer, from the general to the lieutenant, carries his map in his belt, and consults it whenever the troops are halted. Every officer is also furnished with a powerful opera-glass. In such matters as these we ought to take a leaf out of the

Prussian books, for to the carrying of a map and opera-glass he attached great importance; and those articles should be at once adopted as parts of the British officer's dress. When the force to which he was attached arrived at the ground allotted for it to occupy, the opposing force was miles away. The enemy's object was to outflank their force (the one to which the British officers were attached, and which was posted between the "enemy" and Berlin), and gain the approaches to the capital. The ground outside Berlin is sandy, and intersected by hedges, ditches, etc. The farmers fix poles in the ground, topped with straw, to indicate to the troops that they are to avoid the fields as much as possible. Damage done to crops is assessed by staff officers and civilians, and paid for by the government. The damage done is slight, and the farmers like to see the troops in their vicinity; for those surrounding cantonments, such as Aldershot, gain greatly by the presence of the troops. Any hedges or palings that have been injured during the manoeuvres are quickly repaired by the Prussian pioneers, who follow their regiments, so that the government has little to pay.

The defending army went immediately under cover, taking advantage of every object that would furnish cover or concealment; the artillery and cavalry dismounted, and the infantry piled arms. Meanwhile animated discussions about the enemy's objects and designs were going on among the officers, and reports from the cavalry scouts and vedettes were constantly received. Those scouts went out early in the morning, spreading themselves like a fan for miles over the country, penetrating woods, searching villages and farmhouses, and by means of signals and chains of communication, apprising their commanders of any move of the enemy, whose vedettes were similarly employed. Those vedettes consisted of from one to four men. Officers were looking out with the greatest earnestness for the enemy—so earnestly that a person was almost convinced that a real enemy was in front. The supports of those outposts were concealed all over the country, behind hay-ricks, farmyards, hedges, ditches, etc. So earnestly and perfectly were these duties carried out, that sometimes an officer or a single dragoon was pursued at full speed by a whole section. Intelligent mounted orderlies are detailed to carry messages. All manoeuvres are as strictly carried out as if the troops were engaged in action. Such manoeuvres are never witnessed in this country. At first he (Colonel Bray) could not understand the way the vedettes tried to conceal themselves from him, until he found himself suddenly surrounded, when his captors would laugh heartily at seeing him dressed in the uniform of a foreign officer. Their cavalry are handled with great skill. When he heard of what happened to the French at Weissenbourg, Woerth, and Forbach, he was not in the least surprised; it was what he had anticipated at the commencement of hostilities; but our French friends ought to have done better. The lecturer would advise every cavalry officer to learn the rules of Prussian cavalry, as laid down in the translation by Sir Charles Staveley. As our cavalry are but few, their officers ought to be acquainted with the most advanced and practical rules and manoeuvres. To a colonel of cuirassiers the British officer remarked that their horses were badly groomed, and their saddles and accoutrements were dirty. The colonel replied that it required three years to make a dragoon, that their horses were well groomed, and their accoutrements were clean enough for war; it was for war they were learning and not for show. You English (continued the cuirassier) pass your time in training your officers to be grooms, polishing your saddles, bussing your bits and sometimes yourselves with pipe-clay. The umpire with the Prussian troops during the operations of sham fights and manoeuvres is the chief commander. When the King is on the ground he is the umpire. On the same principle, when His Royal Highness the field marshal commanding-in-chief is at Aldershot, he would be the chief umpire; in his absence that duty would devolve on the lieutenant-general commanding. The umpires wear a badge of neutrality round the left arm, and their names are published in orders, so that the contending forces can make no mistake as to their functions and identity. The umpires place themselves between the contending forces, check any violation of the rules of war, halt any body of troops, order it to retire for a certain distance, and remain stationary for a specified time. In any such case word is sent to the commander, and he makes his dispositions accordingly. The umpires prevent the attacking force from advancing too quickly, the lines from approaching too closely to one another, the cavalry from making ineffective charges, and the artillery from going into action in bad positions. The decision of the umpire is paramount and final; with him no officer must enter upon a discussion. With us (British) as soon as an engagement commences there is a jam, because there is no controlling power, and every commander wants to have his own way. Strange that we English have umpires at all games, except the most important game of all—the game of war. A short time since, on the Frimley Hills, General Lysons took up a position. The Fourth regiment were perfectly covered by the railway, the Forty-second Highlanders were well under cover, the Thirty-third and Sixty-seventh regiments were intrenched, artillery and cavalry were most advantageously placed. Some shots having been exchanged, the attacking general came up, and addressing the commanding officer of the Fourth, said, "Why don't you retreat? Why don't you retire?" The commanding officer of the Fourth refused to retire by order of the enemy's general, whose troops fired point-blank into the faces of their opponents. Could anything be more absurd than to have a general ordering the troops of his opponent to retire? (Laughter.) In such a case an umpire, seeing the strong position occupied by General Lysons, would request the attacking general to make a flank attack, or try some other means to capture the position. When the crisis of the Prussian sham fight has arrived, and it is apparent that nothing more can be done, the battle is ended, and the troops march to their bivouac, which is at once protected by outposts, vedettes, and skirmishers, as if they had retired for the night before an enemy.